
THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

Vol. 57

June 15, 1932

No. 12

What the Public Wants

Edward Weber Allen

The Changing Public Library

Clarence E. Sherman

The Survey of the Libraries

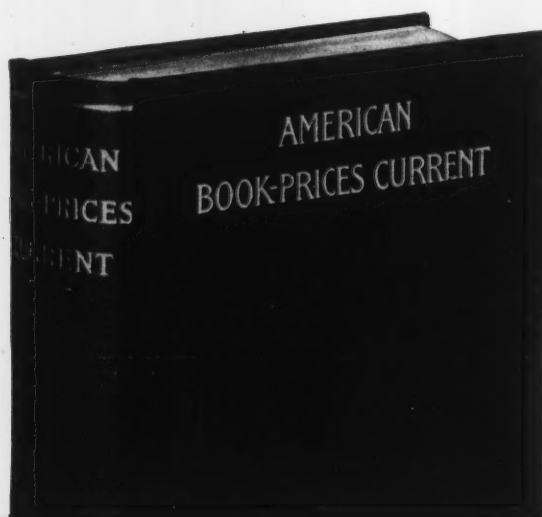
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Library Publicity and the Depression

Carl Vitz

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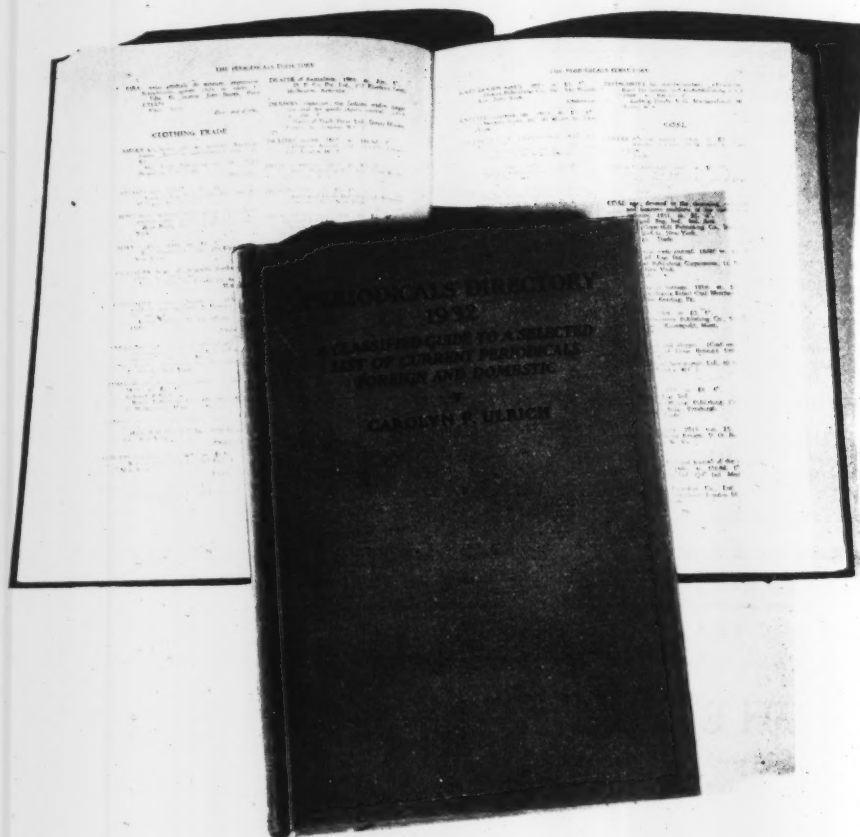
☛ Unfortunately, the lack of a report of the Lending Section meeting at New Orleans makes the reports of Sections and Round Tables, concluded in this number, incomplete. May we, at this time, thank the Secretaries and Chairmen of the various meetings for so promptly sending in their reports for inclusion.

☛ In this number you will miss the column that has been for some time "A Checklist of Current Bibliography." We are discontinuing this checklist for the time being simply to find out whether or not it is of any value to librarians. If it is not used, we do not care to devote the space to it, but if it is a useful checklist, we shall continue it later. Won't you let us know if you care to have it continued?

☛ The next issue will be a Buildings Number with articles on the Folger Shakespeare Library, the new University Library at Atlanta, Georgia, the new building at Winchester, Massachusetts, and new branch buildings at Washington, D. C., Oakland, California, and Cincinnati, Ohio. A list of new buildings being planned at this time will also be run. If you know of any new library buildings under consideration, we shall appreciate having a note about them.

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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL



Library Publicity and the Depression

By CARL VITZ

Librarian, Toledo, Ohio, Public Library

A TIME HONORED device in expository writing is to begin with a definition of terms. To define "depression" should, however, scarcely be necessary in 1932 with this or any other audience. No need to consult Webster. We are but too well acquainted with it and its effects on ourselves, our libraries and our communities.

There may be some value, however, in a consideration of the term "library publicity," its nature, purpose and value in the field of library work, before we make an effort to see what changes, if any, a period of depression makes necessary or desirable.

If we wish the public to understand library work properly, to appreciate its value to the community and to realize that it has a legitimate right to ask for support in these hard times, then we must take the pains to communicate with it; to convey our message clearly, distinctly, and adequately. Publicity is that communication. It is the voice with which we keep our friends, the public, CORRECTLY informed as to what we are doing, can do or desire to do for their benefit.

Good publicity, first, depends upon a plan of development for the library as a whole. Otherwise it, itself, will be chaotic, hit-or-miss and ineffectual. We hear much about plans these days. One is, indeed, urgently needed in the development of a library and its use of publicity. Publicity is of course, merely the means to an end, not an end in itself. It must

have a definite objective. It dare not be indulged in for its own sake. Those who practice publicity because it is the thing to do, thinking it progressive and modern, or who engage in publicity stunts, persuaded into them by a publicity man, are not proceeding on a sound basis.

As librarians we believe it axiomatic that libraries are indispensable means to certain desirable ends, and that increase in their resources, improvements in their staff and facilities, wider use of their service, and an increased willingness to support them are therefore equally desirable. That is, we believe these things but that others, also, may believe them we employ publicity.

There is no time, be it a period of depression or one of prosperity, when a library does not have a message to convey to the people who use and support it. When so many claims are being made upon the attention and consciousness of people today, we need not be surprised that they take their library very much for granted. It is insufficient to rely upon service alone. The public, it must be remembered, has been taught to expect and accept much service, and it does so with few words of gratitude. Business, in its ceaseless competition, has turned to service and often sets a high standard. Consider for a moment the diverse and courteous service given by many kinds of business such as department stores, hotels, trust companies, and by international corporations such as Standard Oil Co., American Express Company, and

Paper presented before Publicity Round Table, April 25, at New Orleans.

the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. They appear to foresee every desire of the customer. True they charge for their elaborate attentions and libraries cannot. Nevertheless, they influence that same public mind with which we deal, and to be practical, we cannot ignore what they are doing. Why should we hesitate to advance our cause? To hold ourselves aloof, or to feel that it is a sign of superiority, of greater culture, to remain indifferent is, indeed, a mistaken point of view.

Let it be understood however that it is not the exaggerations and absurdities often employed in business, and which often are thought of as synonymous with the word publicity, that are here suggested. Properly conceived publicity can be consistent with the splendid work accomplished by libraries. Not in the spirit of advertising the librarian, nor in that of boasting, rather it should be with a desire to spread the news of an institution which is benefitting thousands of people, and which wishes to extend its service still further.

To possess life and vitality, publicity must grow out of conviction, out of the certain feeling that books are essential to better living and that the public library is the most effective means for providing them to the community as a whole. We smile at times at the term "missionary spirit" but the intense desire which burns in the true missionary to inform all within reach of his great message may well be duplicated as a motivating force in the librarian's work. Nowhere does a weak faith reveal itself so quickly as in either spoken or printed publicity.

Library publicity often fails for one of two reasons. Either it is prepared by professional advertising men who fail to catch the true significance of books and the library, or it is prepared by a member of the staff to whom it is merely a routine or perfunctory job. The first of these failures is not so common, due to the well known reluctance of librarians to spend money for publicity. The second shortcoming is by no means rare. It is only necessary to observe the bulletins, reports and other printed matter which are put out by libraries to convince oneself of this fact. Most of it is the result of mere unimaginative routine. It lacks zest and appeal. Books do not seem to the writers to be matters of interest, and humans less so. That such publications can be made interesting to the clientele of a library is shown, for example, by the annual report of the John Carter Brown Library, by the bulletin of the Springfield, Mass., Library, and by many of the lists of the Cleveland and Baltimore libraries.

Now how does a "Depression" affect a library's publicity policy? What changes does it bring about? Changes seem to fall into three groups, due to (a) modifications in the library's objectives; (b) changes in public mental attitudes, i.e., public psychology; and (c) reduced resources of time and money. We shall take the last point first.

With library funds greatly diminished and the staff overwhelmed with the handing out of books to unending lines of people, publicity must of necessity be reduced in amount, or at least the time and money that is devoted to it. This means that annual reports and bulletins are shortened or omitted altogether. Printed lists are fewer and not distributed by mail as often as heretofore and nominal prices are more often set on them. It means less participation in community enterprises, such as food and building shows; less time and money spent on window displays and exhibits. There still remain the less expensive avenues of publicity, the newspaper, the spoken word, and opportunities within the library.

Retrenchment in publicity costs is not only necessary, it is wise psychologically. The public does not look kindly upon costly publicity when there is a general lack of funds and service is being curtailed. But there is danger that lack of funds and lessened staff will bring neglect of needed publicity. As said before, there is no time when this channel of communication can be closed without serious injury to the library cause, even though, for the present, book circulation continues to mount higher and higher. Momentum and outside forces will create temporary book demand, but not permanent support.

Newspaper stories and editorials are among the most effective forms of publicity and are usually to be had with little expenditure of time, and of course, entirely without cost. They can be made to grow out of the current work and problems of the library. Much of the material prepared for regular board meetings will make excellent newspaper stories. After each meeting of the Board in Toledo (to refer to personal experience) the librarian telephones to the morning paper a story of such of the library's activities as in his judgment will be of public interest. A conscious effort is made to present the facts to the reporter in such a way as to make the resultant news story an asset to the library. The afternoon papers depend upon the morning paper whose account they supplement with further information gained from the librarian. Sometimes in matters of importance, a special release is sent to them to give them angles which the morning paper did not have.

When library matters have to be presented to the Board of Education, Budget Commission, or City Council, or any other body that controls purse strings or has a voice in the library's policy, there again opportunity for publicity is easy. A prepared statement of the facts involved and the ends desired, if drawn up as an official statement to the body before whom the presentation is made, is most helpful. Extra copies, if given to reporters, or sent to the city editor, will result in a longer, more accurate and more friendly presentation of the library's case and often in editorial comment. Such a statement, prepared for board meetings or somebody to whom the Board is appealing is much more effective with newspapers than one prepared directly for them. For this reason the newspapers should be kept in mind in their preparation. Newspaper editors have to be wary of attempts to influence their action, but they do welcome a clear statement of the library's problems and difficulties and policies, if sent in advance and with a definite release date.

Perhaps even more important is what may be termed publicity through the staff. When the work increases in quantity and the difficulties under which it is done also increase, and when they are accompanied by reductions in privileges and salary, it is highly important that staff morale be preserved and strengthened. To accomplish this it is essential that the staff be kept informed as to the library's general financial situation and the changes in policy that are necessitated. In fact, such informing can be combined very effectively with efforts to draw from the staff ideas for economies. Not only does this policy result in more satisfactory staff morale and in helpful suggestions for reducing costs of operation, but it is a most effective method of getting information over to the community. Staff members will of course be asked by family and friends and interested users of the library about the library's finances. They will feel better and will make a better impression if they can speak intelligently from definite information given them verbally or through staff meeting notes. As a phase of the spoken word, talks before organizations might be mentioned here, but no important instances come to mind.

Besides newspaper and spoken publicity the library's own bulletin boards are potent aids. When the Toledo Public Library, sixteen months ago, began to charge rent for all fiction purchased after that date, whether new titles or new copies of old titles, all three of the local papers in editorial columns approved this difficult decision of the Board. The posting of these three editorials at the main library

and at branches, together with notices prepared by the library stating the reason for and the necessity of the step, had much to do with the fact that this library heresy was so cheerfully accepted by the Toledo public. In fact, one can get away, so to speak, with murder, providing only, before committing the dread deed, care is taken to condition mentally staff and public.

The Toledo library has distributed multi-graphed book-marks requesting gifts of books to supplement the library's meagre book funds. Other book-marks, designed to expedite local tax collections or to explain a new mechanical charging system have likewise been of value.

An embargo has been placed in the Toledo library upon poster paper and poster colors for bulletin purposes. Nevertheless apparently without reducing their pulling power, library display windows and bulletin boards have been kept attractive and effective by utilizing magazine covers, periodical and other advertisements, railway posters, book jackets and other material available in abundance and at no cost of money and little of time, but which do require the seeing mind and the seeing eye. It is decidedly worth while by precept and example to develop these two desirable qualities in a staff. The ingenuity needed in the last few months reminds me of the buoyant salesperson who recently said to me, "I just love this depression. It makes you see how many things you can do." The staff in Toledo could add "and how many things you can do without."

Next we may consider the modifications which the depression has brought about in the library's objectives. Changes here are great. We no longer marshal our arguments in behalf of increased funds or paint glowing pictures of what more we could do, if entrusted with larger incomes. We now fight to hold what we have, or more commonly to keep the inevitable cut in income as small as possible. Where we depend on a tax rate we throw our influence in favor of a prompter and more complete payment of taxes. Our emphasis is now on the essential character of our service; on its dollar and cents value to the tax payer; on its truly educational character and on the need for recreation and escape for a people out of work.

Increase in physical equipment and extension of service have temporarily fallen by the wayside as an objective. Two to ten years ago, plans for new branches and new buildings, new departments and new main library were the burden of our publicity. Now when we are forced to draw upon carefully

husbanded building funds in order that we may operate at all, publicity for a new building would be both futile and unfortunate. Nevertheless the present obviously crowded quarters and the general appreciation for service rendered under unfavorable conditions are laying excellent foundations for a renewal of efforts when again the time is ripe. It is possible also for the librarian, personally, to drop a seed in season and perhaps out, hoping that it may sprout when the rains of prosperity return.

The winning and keeping of public support is as important an objective as ever, since an institution in the final analysis is on a foundation no more solid than the esteem in which the public holds it. But the content of the publicity designed to win and to hold this popular support is now quite different. Formerly it was likely to consist of stories and promotion publicity, featuring the volume of work, and the unusual phases of library service, such as doll story hours, hospital library work, book mending, acquisition of book rarities, a genuine book worm, not the human variety, etc. Now we are showing how and why we are economizing, regretting the lessened book supply, shorter hours of opening and reduced privileges. We justify service charges, as in Detroit for fountain pen ink and writing paper requested by students, explaining them in terms of our financial difficulties. We advertise things that reduce cost or labor, such as mechanical charging or change from two weeks charge to a four weeks charge without renewal. We explain carefully that a discontinued training class or closed agencies are regretted results of lack of funds. We try to convince the disgruntled tax payer that one institution at least returns 100 cents on the dollar. We emphasize such things as a shrinking fiction percentage, demands for books on trades, business, home industries, finance, tariff, money and banking. The more active and more earnest use of libraries by students in schools is news, as is also the very great use of library books as a means of escape from the deadening effects of the depression atmosphere. The great use of books for recreation when so much time is available and so many of the usual forms of enjoyment are debarred because of lack of funds is also well worth telling. All this builds up a concept of the library's real value and counteracts the frequent impression that the library is merely a warm refuge for the idle or a mere circulating library. The story of the years of good service and of economical management or of good value for money received may now also be told. On the other hand we do not waste

time arguing in behalf of larger salaries for staff members and rejoice when the higher powers do not urge that the staff be reduced in numbers or the amount of their compensation.

Only a short time ago new readers were our chief desire. But at present when through no effort on our part and with the staff and book resources growing less, our patronage increases 50 per cent or more, we lose some of our zest to add numbers. Unable to give adequate service to those who do come, we scarce need to add to our difficulties by increasing their number. We, therefore, should lessen decidedly our advertising of individual books and emphasize the library as an institution, as a social force, as an agency for building more intelligent citizens. In a word we need not book publicity so much as institutional publicity.

When war is being waged, relief units immediately behind the front lines are tremendously important. It would be inhuman indeed not to offer every available assistance to the wounded. But back of the front line and of the second line of the whole army itself, must be organized effort to prevent such human waste at all. Something like a war, with an even more insidious destruction, now prevails. The unemployed, and those dependent upon them are the casualty list. They too should be given immediate relief, food, clothing, shelter, and also recreational and mental escape. But if the present situation is to improve, if a way to prevent its recurrence is to be found, it will be only because we succeed in analyzing the causes of depressions and in working out practical programs for their prevention.

The public library is being called upon for immediate relief and at the same time to aid in the cause of prevention. It is one of the few institutions offering not only temporary relief but also truly constructive help in this period of distress. We may not now need greater numbers to serve, but we do need to interpret to the throngs that come to us this service which the libraries of the country are rendering. The depression has given us the opportunity to emphasize the enduring good which books possess.

As the theme of this conference indicates, the world is indeed, changing. One feels that changes of far reaching influences are casting vague shadows before them. Yet it is so difficult to see ahead—so interrelated are diverse factors—that the next decade may become clear only as it becomes the past. Nevertheless it may be worth while to risk a prophecy.

Signs seem to point toward a scarcity of work placing a premium upon obtaining a job. Once obtained retirement insurance, unemployment insurance and other measures for the stabilization of industry as well as a surplus of labor make it increasingly difficult to change that job. Entered into it may become a life work with little opportunity for change. Heretofore finding a more suitable job was comparatively easy, as shown by figures on labor turnover. Does the new situation mean that satisfaction in living will be found less in employment and more in our capacities as we can develop and find expression for them elsewhere? In Toledo, books on the conduct of life, the control of the mind, books that offer some assistance to more intelligent living are in constant demand. Indeed, more than a change in the economic status of people is occurring. The values of life are shifting. If libraries are in some measure to fill the needs of people in this respect, helpful books should be brought to their attention. If there is anything in print that will make living better, happier, ease a hard situation for someone, create a saner understanding, then let us see this larger and social meaning of book service, and spare no effort in providing the best to be had.

The scarcity of money and the uncertainty of the future are causing fathers and mothers, as well as students themselves, to question the adequacy of the return upon their investment in a college education. Criticism is being hurled at the inability of our college trained people to assume the leadership demanded of the times. We are beginning to realize the inflation that afflicts the educational system. College graduates are finding themselves unemployed as often as their so-called lesser trained fellow workers. It would seem that in the future more boys and girls after fulfilling the legal requirements in school attendance will seek a job and try to do for themselves what in the past few years parents have tried to buy for them in college and university. If so, we may expect libraries to be crowded more and more with earnest readers looking to librarians for direction and counsel in selecting their reading.

Finally let us discuss library publicity in the light of changed mental attitudes, i. e. public psychology. To be effective, publicity should be adapted to the community, that is to the natural and potential constituency of the library. Such constituency is made up of a definite group or groups of people, not only with definite needs and wants and specific characteristics, but also in certain states of mind which may vary from time to time. The

good publicity person keeps his ear to the ground, studies human beings as much as book reviews, and tries to understand the wants of the people—wants often clumsily manifested or not at all, nevertheless seeking satisfaction.

One of these wants is a desire to know how all this present misery came about, and what if anything can be done about it. This group though relatively not large, is important because influential. Efforts to acquaint it with up-to-date library material on why industry, finance and government have failed to safeguard against disaster, and how this disaster can be ameliorated and its recurrence prevented will be amply repaid.

A second desire, now that for so many the chief source of income has dried up or become a mere trickle, is to find other ways of earning money, or of making the little they have go as far as possible. This very large group knows the library but little, and even less the extent of its service. Rabbit raising, one hundred ways a woman can earn at home, kitchen gardening, canning and drying of foods, growing of medicinal herbs are typical demands. Books on wallpapering, painting, how to fix the auto, and other home repair jobs are frequent. If those who ask for books on salesmanship are the same who ring our doorbells, the number of the latter can easily be accounted for.

To many the use of the library appeals as a sort of job insurance. They are trying through the use of books to improve themselves in their present work, to make themselves more versatile, and thus less dispensable in their business, or to increase the likelihood of a second job if the present one fails them.

Not only the individual, but industries themselves are resorting to every device merely to keep going. Their research men and sales executives are thinking up all sorts of gadgets and quick selling articles, not to make a profit but to prevent a complete shut down. Large auto parts concerns are making dollar electric clocks and chromium plated bottle stoppers. All of these fields suggest opportunities for publicity efforts somewhat different in appeal and, of course, restrained as to what the library can do.

The public may be inarticulate with reference to many of its desires, but in one respect it is not. Its growl against taxes and the expense of government is loud and menacing. Its opposition, often unreasoned, is none the less real.

Tired of paying for bonds issued for improvements that do not last the life of the bond, of paying for public improvements

to provide employment for a few men, cities are failing to pay their indebtedness and its citizens, resentful of the heavy property tax, increasingly burdensome to pay. Default and debt evasion are growing tendencies in the public mind. It is a time when the "ins" are apt to be turned out, when all governmental bodies are under scrutiny and under fire. Everywhere we hear complaint of high taxes and of the large number of office holders in the nation, state and city. This means that all of us and all our work are on the defensive, and this is perfectly proper. At a time like the present we should expect to justify to those who pay the bill the value of the work for which they provide the funds.

Libraries, as a rule, have been economically managed, but they need to take the greatest pains to inform the public or they will be swept aside in the coming revision of public support. The taxpayer, like the overburdened soldier on a weary march, is beginning to cast away part of his burdens. How certain are we that our libraries will not be included in the discarding? Our task is to make every taxpayer see that the library is an essential unit in community welfare. If our work cannot justify itself, then despite all our efforts, it will gradually pass as other institutions have passed.

Nor should we feel so sure that the work of libraries is in all respects above criticism. We must keep in mind not only this year but the next decade and the direction in which we

would have our libraries go. The depression will pass. The effect of our publicity should remain. Some really hard thinking is desirable, is in fact being done. We must evaluate and re-evaluate. We must determine what is essential, what is less necessary, and what can now be discarded. Are our methods in cataloging, in circulation records too complicated? Is our buying in the field of fiction and popular magazines in need of revision? Is our open shelf system resulting in losses from the shelves out of proportion to its value? Are our reference rooms being used too freely as study halls, and by cross-word and word contest fans? What should be the policy towards directories and business service? Does the story hour retain its earlier importance? Is class room library service necessary, or should the schools now take over the field?

This is not the time nor place to discuss these and other questions, but depression finances and depression psychology may force new answers for some, and we must depend upon publicity prepared in humbleness of mind and with searching of heart to make these new answers acceptable or to persuade the public to accept the old answers. If the value of the public library is greater now than ever, as we believe it is, then we should come out of this period of trial even stronger than before, provided we present our case properly and effectively before that great jury—the American people.



Travel Abroad Book Exhibit arranged in the Delivery Room of the Indianapolis, Indiana, Public Library during March and April.

A Liaison Service

By EMILY V. D. MILLER

Editor, Publications, American Library Association

THE A. L. A. headquarters office at Chicago likes to think of itself as a clearing house for any legitimate information that librarians may require and anything pertinent to libraries that may assist publishers in the service they are giving to libraries throughout the country.

The purpose of this paper is to outline the plans for two proposed services. One, if set up, would assist in bringing back into print worthwhile or needed books now out of print. The other would determine from representative librarians, for the benefit of the publishers who ask it, whether or not a given manuscript would likely be, if published, a useful library item and one that libraries would buy.

Let us take the out-of-print service first. The value of such a service seems to be fairly obvious, as everyone will admit that there are many fine and useful books, for which there is at least some library demand, which are obtainable only through the second-hand market, if at all. Many good books are allowed to go out of print without sufficient effort from publishers or librarians to keep them in. The publishers are indifferent if the number of orders falls below a certain minimum, which may occur because the whole force of their advertising is directed toward the sale of new books on the same subject, perhaps not nearly so good. Librarians contribute by accepting readily the new book substitute when the older one is reported out of print. Publishers might take a more aggressive attitude toward older titles and push them, and librarians might take a more conservative attitude by not accepting the new book in place of the better old one. This might be better for all concerned. Incidentally, the depression, which cuts down the number of new titles and makes the publisher hesitate on new manuscripts, should cause him to do all possible in pushing good older titles still in stock.

There are two main classes of out-of-print titles: popular books and essentials for college and university libraries. Some of the problems to be considered in connection with o.p.'s may be mentioned. Sometimes revision needs to be considered before reprinting;

sometimes new illustrations. The question of the degeneration of the classics into cheap, poorly made editions needs consideration; when librarians look for replacement copies they are sometimes unable to find suitable ones. Sometimes an ordinary trade book is in print but no suitable library edition is available. Carl Cannon, who has given more thought to this whole problem than any other librarian I know, considers this question as important as the other. Mr. Cannon's replacement list of fiction, which is now being compiled under his direction by a large committee, should help publishers to see that it is worth while to bring out popular titles in usable, cheap editions. Some desirable titles are available only in comparatively high-priced format.

There is of course great risk in recommending for reprinting, titles for which there might not be sufficient demand. Would it not be well if some automatic machinery for finding out what o.p.'s need reprinting could be set up in fifty representative libraries? The order librarians could send their returned order slips, marked o.p., to an assistant who would note a multiple demand for certain titles (this would of course catch only recent o.p.'s, as librarians would not often place orders for the others, knowing them to be o.p.) If fifteen o.p. slips should come in for one title, a steady demand would be indicated in that library system at least. Lists from this library could be checked against others and if the same demand manifests itself from different sized libraries in different parts of the country, it would be safe to assume that reprinting would be justified.

More circumspection is needed in the matter of scholarly books. The same machinery might be set up, adding college and reference libraries. Members of faculties could probably indicate the importance of a title and whether or not it would be put on reading lists if in print. The tendency now is to leave an o.p. book off because of the difficulty of obtaining it. The fact that an author is famous and a title renowned is no proof of the value of that book from the commercial point of view, so that special care must be exercised before such books are recommended for reprinting.

An eastern publisher who is interested in the A. L. A.'s proposal to concern itself in

Paper presented before Order and Book Selection Round Table at New Orleans.

this matter of out-of-print titles drew up a scheme of operation, which I will outline for your consideration. First, the A. L. A. is to secure a revolving fund. Then, through a committee, select the books that need reprinting. Next, publishers would be given definite orders to reprint these titles. The publishers would agree to print small editions of any books for which they hold plates, the A. L. A. to pay from its revolving fund for presswork, paper, stock and binding. Manufacturing cost would be approximately 20 per cent of the list price of the book. The publisher will sell the book according to his custom and will pay a 20 per cent royalty, one-half to the A. L. A., one-half to the author. When there is no royalty agreement with the author, the A. L. A. will get 20 per cent; when the author's royalty is 20 per cent the A. L. A. will get none.

From our point of view this would not seem a happy or economical arrangement. It is hard to see how the revolving fund would long revolve under such conditions, for a considerable part of the fund would soon be tied up in stock of slow moving titles, and it is hardly possible that a 10 per cent royalty would replace even a fair fraction of the sum.

The Section on Library Work with Children of the A. L. A. has for years carried on successful negotiations with publishers, circularizing libraries to determine the demand for out-of-print children's books. This is comparatively easy because the field is so much more limited than in the case of adult books.

In April, 1931, a list of twenty-five titles was sent out by Mr. Cannon to libraries, the list representing out of prints in wide demand among librarians throughout the country. Many librarians did not trouble to check and return the list until specifically requested to do so. The possible number of orders during the first and second years had been asked for. The response showed as high as 400 or 500 probable orders for some of the titles. The publishers apparently were not interested, for none promised to reprint, although Peter Smith is reprinting some, leasing the plates.

Peter Smith is a dealer in out-of-print books, and about two years ago began the reprinting of o.p.'s for which he found there was considerable demand. He draws his suggestions from the New York Public Library and from librarians scattered over the country. He distributes an occasional circular to librarians and some of his reprints have been issued on the basis of the responses to these circulars, though Mr. Smith tells me

that librarians often ignore circular inquiries and that they do not always purchase books even after they have indicated an interest in them beforehand. Mr. Smith leases the plates from the original publishers when he can, and when there are no plates he uses the offset method. He is fortunate in having the backing of a wealthy collector, from whom he borrows a sum sufficient to produce each reprint, giving the collector notes for four or five years, during which time he expects to liquidate the investment. Mr. Smith charges no operating expenses against the venture, as he has not had to add to his space or his office force for his new publishing enterprise; and although he fears that some of his titles will not pay their way and will have to be remaindered, others enjoy a fair sale, and his general business gains through the prestige he has acquired as a publisher. Mr. Smith feels that publicity for his reprints is a serious problem. He cannot afford to circularize all libraries; large review mediums pay no attention to reprints, and this leaves paid advertising and the *Booklist* columns as about his only means for making known to librarians that certain books formerly out of print are now available, through him. Mr. Smith takes over the royalty obligations of original publishers and fixes his selling price on the basis of costs, number of copies, and time allowed to liquidate. The net price is usually somewhat more than that of the original edition.

In January of this year, Mr. Cannon and Mr. Lydenberg of the New York Public Library held a conference with twelve or fifteen representatives of university presses. The feeling expressed there was unquestionably in favor of some mechanism to be set up by the A. L. A., by which information on needed out-of-prints will be obtained and turned over to publishers. It is likely that many titles on the want lists from college and reference libraries will be books originally appearing with university press imprints.

The question of cost at A. L. A. headquarters for such a service has been considered and it is estimated that \$6,000 a year for several years would establish the service and put it on its feet. This sum would take care of a special assistant and a stenographer, together with supplies, postage, mimeographing, etc. The plan is to include adult and juvenile books for all kinds of libraries, the "indispensables and the populars," with occasional planograph reproductions of rare books. Probably the first step would be the compilation of two master lists of out-of-prints, to be made up from the A. L. A. *Catalog*, 1926, Felsenthal's *Readable Books*

In *Many Subjects, Classics of the Western World*, Shaw's *List of Books for College Libraries*, *One Thousand Useful Books*, and the letters we have collected from librarians. One of these lists would consist of popular titles, the other of scholarly ones. The latter would be sent to most college and some public libraries, asking each to indicate the number of copies they would probably buy, at approximately the same price as the last edition, if the book were reprinted, and also to indicate their probable repeat orders. Returns might result in a list of fifty, which would have to be sent out again to get a concentration of returns on the books.

The same procedure would be followed with the public library list of more popular titles. Here children's books would be included and relations would be established with the Book Production Committee of the Section for Library Work With Children, so as to get the benefit of their experience and knowledge of the subject. Announcement would be made in the *Booklist* and the *A. L. A. Bulletin*, so that suggestions would be forthcoming as to the way in which the new service can be made useful in meeting specific needs.

When replies come in from the libraries asked to check these two lists, the results would be reported to the publishers who hold original plates. If, in spite of what seems to us a fair demand, the publishers prefer to take no action, then the matter would be brought to the attention of such special publishers as the H. W. Wilson Company and Peter Smith, leaving them to make arrangement with the original publishers if they wish to and can. Mr. Wilson is interested in bringing back o.p.'s, particularly those analyzed in his *Essay and General Literature Index*.

We would perhaps try to persuade publishers to reprint a smaller number than they now consider profitable, some books on the borderline, and to use a smaller minimum in annual orders before deciding to drop a title from their list.

If, as may sometimes happen, an English book is among those called for by American libraries, we shall probably ask the Library Association of Great Britain to help us in determining the number of copies that libraries will probably buy if the book is reprinted.

Mr. Cannon wonders whether a super-committee should not be set up to pass judgment on so-called scholarly books. It might include readers' advisers, specialists in different fields, and perhaps some dependable laymen. Specialists, we find, are inclined to be too enthusiastic, to overvalue the literature in

their line of interest, and to overvalue general interest or possible sale. The super-committee would study all requests for reprints before submitting them to publishers, to be sure that all are indispensables, not replaced, not out of date, and that no other book is in process of publication which would make the considered one un-needed.

The A. L. A. is awaiting funds to carry out plans for this o.p. service. The same funds will also take care of the other service to which I alluded at the beginning of my talk, and which, in conclusion I shall briefly describe.

This second service has been suggested by a leading New York publisher. He tells us that publishers have sometimes produced a book, saying "It won't go big over the counter, but it is a fine library book." Sometimes that confidence has been justified, sometimes not. They don't really know what constitutes a desirable library book, except reference books pure and simple, or books desirable from every other point of view. If the A. L. A. could establish a simple mechanism for finding out library interest in and need for a certain book, it would help publishers to eliminate from their lists books now undertaken for libraries but not genuinely useful to libraries, and would bring some order into what is now, says this publisher, pretty chaotic. Aside from the obvious advantage to the publisher of learning what the attitude of representative librarians would be toward a proposed publication, the plan, if put into operation, would soon be the means of eliciting suggestions from librarians as to subjects on which good books, that is, good from the library angle, are needed.

It is generally assumed, I think, by people who buy and read books, that those books have had their origin in the minds of their authors, that they have burst upon the publishers as full-blown manuscripts. I believe that (in the non-fiction field, of course) this is less and less the case, that more often than not it is the publisher who has had the idea for a book and has commissioned, or inspired, an author to undertake it. So, librarians, by bringing their needs before publishers, may bring books into being.

The plan is this: The publisher would send to the A. L. A. a descriptive note about a proposed book, giving author, title, approximate length, probable price, how the subject is treated, and other pertinent data. We would mimeograph this information and send it out to about fifty libraries, which will have agreed in advance to cooperate, and the replies received would be tabulated and turned over to the publisher, perhaps sent to him

in full when of particular value. The publisher would pay a fee for each title on which he seeks this kind of information, a fee of perhaps \$20. Only last week we got out a letter to publishers describing this plan and asking whether or not they would be interested. There had not been time for replies when I left Chicago.¹ Perhaps some publisher will feel that an opinion expressed from such meager information will not be of sufficient value to serve him as a guide, but I am inclined to think it will, particularly in the somewhat doubtful cases where he seeks backing for his own judgment. Perhaps a publisher will say "Why should I pay even \$20 and then maybe turn down the manuscript?" But if the opinions of these librarians have convinced him that he would make a mistake to publish the book, would it not be worth \$20 to him to have found this out in time?

The Editor of the *Booklist* selects the books which are reviewed there every month, from

¹ Letters from publishers received after this paper was read indicate, with a few exceptions, enthusiastic approval of the plan and a desire to take advantage of it.

the votes of cooperating librarians. She sends out, every week, a list of the new books received in her office, and on this list plus and minus votes are recorded. Because the books are so new, some librarians have not yet had time to read or even see them. Consequently we often see a long row of plus votes in parentheses. This means "from what I know of author and publisher and what I have heard about this book, I believe it is a good library book, but I have not seen it myself." Now, if librarians can express that kind of an opinion on a book they have not seen, they could express a like opinion on a book not yet issued, but on which they had more information than just author, title, and price, which appears on the *Booklist* tentative.

We hope that both these plans have practical possibilities, that they will work out to the advantage both of publishers and of librarians, and that they point the way to a clearer understanding between those two groups, in which the cordial good will of each must always mean so much to the other.

The Survey of the Libraries

By GEORGE A. WORKS

Dean of Students and University Examiner, The University of Chicago

NO ATTEMPT will be made in this paper to review as a whole the study which was made of the libraries in connection with the survey of the Land-Grant colleges and universities. Such a review would take more time than would be appropriate. Furthermore, it would serve no valuable purpose. Instead of such a complete analysis I shall:

1. Endeavor to reinforce a few of the points made in Mr. Charles Brown's report.¹ The ones chosen for this purpose are those that appeal to me as being especially significant if the library is actually to assume the place in the life of the university or college that we commonly give it when the subject is considered in the abstract. The college library suffers from too much lip service. Especially

is this true in the separate Land-Grant colleges.

2. Point out some respects in which I differ from the report at least in emphasis if not in more fundamental respects.

No effort will be made to completely segregate the treatment of the last two phases.

The report properly emphasizes the importance of a qualified personnel if the library is to serve its constituency adequately. The inefficiency of the staff found to characterize too many of the libraries is partially explained by the relatively poor salaries paid in many libraries. However, it is my opinion that an increase in funds would not alone remedy this situation. In discussing the possibility of remedying the unsatisfactory conditions that were found in some of the libraries the report states that, "The chief difficulty in definite recommendations as to library staff is the question of what to do with the present librarian and library assistants when they are not qualified for the positions they are holding."

¹ *Survey of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities*. 1930. Vol. I, pp. 609-714.

Address given at the Convention of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities, Stevens Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, November 17, 1931.

In my opinion a more serious difficulty is the fact that there is the fact that there is not available an adequate supply of persons to fill the vacancies that would result from the removal of the incompetent. If all college and university executives who do not have adequate library staffs were to be convinced today of the need of better library personnel and were given funds to pay appropriate amounts for such betterment they would not be able to find the personnel. I am confident that many presidents who know what is desirable in the way of a librarian will bear testimony to the difficulty they have met in endeavoring to locate the librarians capable of handling a college or university library according to the standards set by Mr. Brown. Good librarians are not available in sufficient numbers to meet the demand that actually exists even under present conditions. Money alone will not correct this condition, at least not immediately.

I think that college and university administrators would agree in the main on theoretical grounds in placing on librarians all the responsibilities recommended in the report. Certainly not all would agree to accept these views so long as they have their present library staffs. In this they are right. Too frequently these staffs would not be able to measure up to the demands of the positions as set forth by Mr. Brown.

This situation should not, however, be used as an argument for perpetuating present conditions. The position of librarian must be made a responsible one and the powers he is given should be commensurate with the responsibilities of the position. Strong men and women will not be drawn to a field of endeavor in which they find but limited opportunity for the exercise of their powers. The changes needed by way of increase in the powers of the librarian will of necessity have to come gradually, and in the same manner will come the supply of capable individuals.

A second element is involved in the reform of the library. The report touches upon this phase in the discussion of the training of librarians. Reference is made to the dearth of library workers who have had training in science. Also, to their inability to approach their problems in an objective manner. In my opinion these criticisms do not go far enough. Mr. Brown lays a great deal of emphasis on the need of the year of professional training. I should attach much more weight to the reformation of this training than does Mr. Brown.

I belong to a profession that is frequently accused of making a new course every time

it has a fraction of an idea, but the library profession has gone the professional educator one better. It has not only made many courses but in addition it has placed the training on an extremely formal basis. The present professional training of the librarian places too much emphasis on methods and not enough on principles. There can be no true library profession grounded on rule-o'-thumb procedures.

But, I would not leave you with the impression that I believe all the responsibility for the unsatisfactory conditions found in many libraries is due entirely to the selection and training of persons for the library profession. Some persons of ability are drawn to the service ignorant of the limitations they will find imposed in many colleges and universities upon the use of their abilities. Being persons of capacity for growth they rise above their training. Such persons will do excellent work when they find themselves as librarians in a college or university with an executive head who has an appreciative understanding of the place of the library in the institution and who gives the librarian the support both financial and moral that he should have from the president. Too many presidents do not have sufficient acquaintance with the functions of a library to give it backing of this character. They do not understand its place in the program of the institution as they do that of a major division, school, or college. Furthermore, some of them are not disturbed by this fact. In my opinion they should not rest until they have made themselves as thoroughly familiar with the library problems as they are with those of any other major division of the college or university over which they preside. This report by Mr. Brown will make it far easier for you to remedy these weaknesses than has been the case in the past. The pioneer days of Land-Grant colleges are ended.

The faculty member who has had his preparation to teach agriculture, home-economics, or engineering in recent years is making demands on the library far in excess of those made by most persons who began their work in these fields thirty years ago. The institutions that have prepared themselves for this day by collecting rich library resources for teaching and research will find it easier to draw and hold the more competent of the oncoming generation of teachers and investigators.

The report touches on a vital point that is too frequently overlooked by both presidents and librarians in pointing out the distinction between centralization of books and the cen-

tralization of the responsibility for the library service in an institution. It is clear that for some institutions it is both impracticable and undesirable to bring all the printed resources of the institution together in one place. However, it seems to me that the responsibility for these resources should be centralized in the hands of one person—the librarian. All too frequently small collections of books and periodicals will be found scattered over the campus with no provision for making them readily available to the entire college or university community and sometimes even without provisions by which the prospective user can go to a single place of record to determine whether or not the desired publication is in the possession of the institution.

The report calls attention to the inadequacy of the collection of periodical literature in two fields. Other studies that have been made show the frequency with which gaps are to be found in sets of periodicals. This situation is contributed to by the failure to fix responsibility for the maintenance of the continuity of accessions of periodicals. If periodicals go directly to departments and remain there for some months before they are turned over to the librarian, as is still true in some Land-Grant colleges, numbers are certain to be missing when the time comes for the volume to go to the bindery. Time is lost and extra expenses are incurred as a result. Again, the passing whim of a member of the teaching staff may result in a break in a serial that frequently cannot be corrected when it later becomes desirable to complete the serial.

As a result of a study made for the Carnegie Corporation of college and university libraries I was led to make the following statements regarding the centralization of responsibilities in the hands of the librarian:

1. All books purchased should be part of the general library.
2. Purchases of printed resources will be made by the librarian. (This should not exclude the faculty from the decisions with reference to what shall be purchased.)
3. All materials should be cataloged by the general library.
4. The cards for books should be found both in the general and the departmental libraries.
5. The librarian should have the responsibility for determining the hours that each departmental library is open. (This responsibility should perhaps be shared with the department or departments involved.)
6. The librarian should be charged with the responsibility of selecting the persons in charge of the branch libraries. (It may be desirable to have this done with the approval of the department or departments concerned.)
7. Those in charge of branch libraries should be on the payroll of the library.
8. The librarian should have authority to trans-

fer books to the branch libraries when in his judgment they will better serve the needs of students and faculty by being placed in the branches. (There will of necessity be some restriction on the removal of certain kinds of books from the central library.)

9. Provision should be made for telephone and adequate messenger service. The messenger service should not only include services at stated intervals but also for emergencies. In the large institutions it should include a truck which is entirely at the disposal of the library.
10. College libraries should have no different administrative relationship to the central library from that of the other libraries. Provision may be made for giving them a larger degree of autonomy than is desirable for departments. This may be done by having them carry an item in their budget for library purchases, by making provisions for a library committee for the college, etc.

I repeat these statements for two reasons: First, observation of library conditions made in a number of higher institutions since the above was written has only confirmed in my mind the validity of the suggested policies. Second, in one respect they go somewhat further than do the recommendations of the survey. Reference is made to placing all who are responsible for library duties on the budget of the library.

When frankly facing the conditions in a given institution one must acknowledge that the library personnel is not of such character as to make it practicable to recognize these policies. In his report, Mr. Brown gives consideration to this fact and makes some constructive suggestions. Personally, I cannot take very seriously his statement that persons who have proved incompetent in the library might be transferred to other divisions of the institution as in any large measure meeting this problem. I have seen too many cases of libraries that were suffering from the reversal of the process to recommend it to you for serious consideration. The remedying of these conditions for reasons which have already been given will have to be a gradual process. However, this should not be interpreted as a basis for failing to make changes in library personnel that are inadequate when capable persons can be obtained. The library is too important in any real college or university to have its usefulness, present or future, jeopardized by the incompetency of a single individual.

The report on one point is not so definite as I wish it were. It is not entirely clear just how much authority Mr. Brown would give to the librarian in the selection of books. The following statement is made: "The librarian, since he is responsible for the effectiveness of the library, should exercise final authority over book purchases." I have already indi-

cated that I believe in making the position of librarian a responsible one, but I should not like to carry this to such a point that faculty members were not positive factors in the development of book collections. Most of the notable collections to be found in college or university libraries have centered around the personality of some great teacher or investigator. The increased specialization of research will, in my judgment, accentuate this even further. I should hope that the powers of the librarian would not be extended to the point that uniformity in the collection of printed resources would result in mediocrity.

This does not gainsay the view that the librarian should have final power in the purchase of books of reference and those needed for the general library use, but I should hope that he would find his largest usefulness in the building up of special collections by working through rather than over the real scholars.

The day has come when any good Land-Grant college must have a good library, adequate for need of both student and scholar. Such libraries where they are lacking can be obtained only by the combined activities of faculty and librarian supported by the intelligent sympathy of the president.

What the Public Wants

By EDWARD WEBER ALLEN

Trustee, Seattle, Washington, Public Library

"THE PUBLIC is entitled to what it wants." This is the retort of almost every city librarian when criticised as to the character of books purchased. Superficially it sounds unanswerable; however, like most general statements it will not bear analysis.

In the first place, there is a fatal lack of any definition of the term "The Public." In the second place, it ignores the fact that publications which are morally or politically subversive offend against the public policy of our country and that neither libraries nor librarians are immune from law.

A number of requests may be made for a certain book. Does this mean that "The Public" wants that book, or merely that a few individuals, a small group of a particular organization may desire it? Every large city today contains some Russian, perhaps some American Bolsheviki. Naturally they wish to have the library purchase communistic propaganda. Their reasons are apparent; first, that any radical agitator desires stimulation to keep his own zeal up to fever heat; second, that he wants others to read and be converted.

The entire theory of our government is anti-communistic. Those authoritative expressions of what "The Public" wants, that is to say, our statute laws, our constitutions and our judicial decisions, evidence this fact beyond the point of controversy. All citizens may not approve of this theory, but the theory has been sanctioned in the established methods provided for

registering the public's desires and besides is recognized generally in this country.

To be sure it is also part of our public policy that there should be freedom of expression—that citizens, even though they constitute a small minority, may freely criticize our government, so long as they restrain themselves from violence and from advocating the making of changes in other than a lawful manner. But because we may permit small groups in our midst, with whom most of us disagree, to advocate theories which are contrary to those of our republic, we certainly owe such minority groups no obligation to expend public funds to assist them to destroy our institutions. Just because a few communists ask for the purchase of communistic propaganda to aid in their efforts at proselyting, entails no obligation upon the part of a public librarian to comply with such requests.

Turning next to obscenity, we are immediately met with the threadbare remark, spoken always with biting sarcasm, "Well, I suppose you would prohibit reading the classics or the Bible." This biased point of view wholly overlooks of course the essential difference between reading a book "for" its obscenity, and reading it even though it may contain matter which under some circumstances would be deemed obscene.

Shakespeare spoke with a freedom which was current in his day, which was subsequently discarded, and is only now coming back into vogue; but no intelligent person has

ever attributed the high place which Shakespeare holds in literature to the fact that he at times employed obscene language.

There is vast difference between the classics which are read because of their thought, beauty, or historical value, regardless of some crudities which they may contain, and the works of a modern author who, solely for money or notoriety, panders to that portion of the public which smacks its lips over the salacious and crowds courtrooms when assured that the trial will produce the exposure of sufficient filth and sordidness.

Not only would it seem that ethically there is no obligation on the part of a librarian to use public funds to purchase books whose intent is to cater to demoralization, but as is the case with politically subversive literature, so also with the morally subversive, such conduct would be contrary to the spirit if not the letter of our laws, in that provisions against obscene publications, as well as against syndicalism, are to be found upon the statute books of practically every state.

Such laws constitute an official and authoritative indication of "public policy" as distinguished from the implications of the public's desires which some librarians assume to derive from the mere demands of a few individuals. It is as much the duty of a faithful public official to conform to the public policy of his commonwealth as it is to avoid conduct coming specifically within legal inhibitions.

In this country we decry censorship. The most hopeless feature of the present Russian situation is that, because of rigid censorship of all printed matter and the absolute governmental control of all public assemblages, there is no opportunity for the people to obtain the wholesome education derived from free dis-

cussions and interchange of views. It must always be remembered that censorship involves the idea of the predetermination of what may be said or written, that is, before the thought may be communicated.

Regulation, on the other hand, permits each individual to express himself; then, holds him responsible if he has offended against the rules laid down. This is the American policy. Regulation permits one to print a book or paper without hindrance, but if the article offends against the rules laid down by law, the producer may be compelled to respond in damages for any private injury done, and he may be subject to criminal prosecution if he has offended against the public law. It is of course a vastly different thing to hold a person responsible before the established courts and in the ordinary course of justice for an act which he has committed, and to create an arbitrary political tribunal with power to determine in advance what one may print or say.

The distinction between and the meaning of censorship and regulation have been discussed to make it clear that although on the one hand the idea of censorship meets with general disapproval in this country, on the other hand the notion that one may print or say whatever he pleases with impunity does not follow. On the contrary there is no condonation of the publication of matter unfit for perusal. This being the case law enforcement officials in their respective fields are charged with the duty of determining what is unfit for perusal. Public librarians being charged with the expenditure of public funds are therefore from the very nature of their positions also duty bound to make such determination. The prosecuting officials may in practice really do nothing. The librarian cannot avoid the issue but is compelled to act.

ENTHUSIASM

OFTEN SCHOLARLY MEN frown on enthusiasm as indicating credulity. Such men are afraid to die and unwilling to live. They often endure living by finding stimulus in some dilettante interest or in sensual appetites. Life cannot thrive without enthusiasm.

To achieve with critical open mind a purpose which justifies enthusiasm, and to throw one's life into its fulfilment, creates an impression of validity which is essential to leadership. Men seldom believe in one who does not trust his own purpose.

—ANTIOCH NOTES.

Library of Congress—Card Division

Extra Bibliographical Service

By NOUVART TASHJIAN

Chief of Catalog Division, Washington Square Library, New York University

NOW THAT there are some tangible signs that Cooperative Cataloging may soon be a fact in reducing the cost of cataloging and also speeding up the work, it may be well to record how, even as early as 1915, we were able to obtain better results at lower costs of cataloging through the extra service of the Card Division, even when printed cards were not available. The St. Paul, Minnesota, Public Library was the first public library which in 1915 began to use the Library of Congress Classification at the suggestion of Dr. W. Dawson Johnston, the librarian. Quoting from a written statement by Dr. Johnston:

"In 1915, the Library being destroyed by fire it became necessary to restore the collection as rapidly as possible, and with that in view to effect such further changes in office, policies and routine, and such standardization of materials and processes as would secure the best possible records at the least possible cost.

"This work involved a change from the Decimal scheme of classification to the Library of Congress scheme of classification, and the adaptation of the latter to public library use; it involved the cataloguing of 130,000 volumes within twenty months, the elaboration of three general catalogues for the central library, two departmental catalogues and three branch library catalogues, and a shelf list; all records totalling almost half a million cards; it involved the preparation of a manual of practice of classification, cataloguing, and filing, including a cost system, and the training of the assistants needed to carry on the work. These numbered 15 to 25 persons, including part time assistants. . . . I should add also that under high pressure from my office, the quality of the output was as extraordinary as its quantity."

A large measure of credit for accomplishing this amount of work in record time should go to the Library of Congress Card Division.

The St. Paul Library L. C. Depository Catalog as well as all its bibliographical tools had been destroyed in the fire. Since some of the L. C. Classification schemes were not then in print, and the classification number and subject headings did not appear on the printed cards in certain classes, the task of using L. C. classification was harder than it is now. By special arrangement with the Card Division, whenever the L. C. class number or subject headings were omitted on the printed cards, our card orders were further

searched in the L. C. public catalog and the information supplied to us. In addition all the required cross references were noted for a given name whenever specifically requested, and the L. C. form of entry was supplied whenever possible if there were no printed cards for the title requested.

Three years ago when I joined the staff of the Washington Square Library, New York University, the decision to use the Library of Congress classification had just been made. A gift of a large sum of money had brought some forty or fifty thousand volumes to the Library, and many were still pouring in, with the result that there were almost half as many books not cataloged as cataloged. Prior to this time for several years a great many books for which printed cards were not available had been noted in the public catalog with merely the card order slip to which the brief class mark had been added. Many others for the same reason, had been held for several years on the catalog department shelves waiting to be cataloged. Added to this situation was the new problem of recataloging the library in the Library of Congress Classification and a thorough reorganization of the department.

In the Fall of 1929, taking advantage of Mr. Hastings' visit to the Washington Square Library, we frankly told him the situation and asked him if he would be willing to give special additional service. Needless to say, he was most willing and ready to help and consented to give extra bibliographical service, some of which was understood at that time to be the first of its kind that the Card Division was called upon to do. It must be remembered that the Washington Square Library does not have the L. C. Depository Card Catalog, nor the old *British Museum Catalog*, and at that time had only a few volumes of the *Catalogue Général* of the *Bibliothèque Nationale*.

It may be of interest to some other libraries to mention some of the types of valuable time-saving bibliographical service given to us by the Card Division since 1929, in cases where printed cards were not to be had:

(a) All the old order slips for books marked

n.p. (i.e., no prospect for printed cards) which had accumulated for several years and numbered over 1000 uncataloged titles, were sent again to the Library of Congress for cards. These were searched once more by the Card Division and printed cards were found for some; those remaining were further searched in the catalog of the Library of Congress for full entry and date. When possible a sample card of an entry nearest to the title was sent. We were also supplied with the L. C. form for all added entries for personal names, i.e., translator, editor, joint author, etc.

- (b) The L. C. form of entry for the name for all new orders for which there are no printed cards.
- (c) A cross reference card from the form of entry we have used on the card order slip to the form used by L. C.
- (d) The Library of Congress call number in cases when it has the book, but for some reason the cards are not printed. This is often the case for the main entry of serials, incomplete volumes, etc., for which L. C. has only typed cards.
- (e) A sample printed card for entries for which the cards are out of stock.
- (f) If there were no Library of Congress cards for orders sent, cards are searched in the Union Catalog, where the names of the libraries that have the book are indicated. We have found it pays to order a negative photostat, especially when the cards are prepared by the New York Public Library, the University of Chicago, the University of Michigan, or the John Crerar libraries. The classification and added entries are often a help.

- (g) Whenever we send an analytical entry for monographs in serial publications which we analyze, but for which we do not wish to have a standing order for L. C. analyticals and the cards are not yet printed, our order is marked "order held" and the cards come later on automatically as soon as printed.

The charge for all this time-saving, valuable bibliographical service which has materially reduced our cost of cataloging and improved the quality of work, has been very small. In return, since 1930 we have supplied about 900 titles for the Union Catalog, and whenever requested, have prepared copy for printing cards by L. C.

From September 1929 to December 1931, we have cataloged 61,104 volumes representing 30,072 titles. For 6,311 titles we could not get L. C. printed cards and prepared our own cards with the extra bibliographical help of the Card Division whenever possible. As most of the entries for which no cards were available were in foreign languages, quite a few were old or rare books, and often of a difficult type of cataloging, one can appreciate the labor-saving aids received which made it possible to keep our cataloging of these books on as high a standard as that of the Library of Congress.

It is hoped that the Cooperative Cataloging Committee will keep in mind the needs of the College and University libraries that do not have an L. C. Depository Card Catalog and make some arrangement with the Card Division by which all libraries may get the full benefit of the Depository Card Catalog and the L. C. Union Catalog bibliographical service as such we have been fortunate enough to receive.



Books are the open avenues down which, like kings coming to be crowned, great ideas and inspirations move to the abbey of man's soul. There are some people still left who understand perfectly what Fenelon meant when he said: "If the crowns of all the kingdoms of the empire were laid down at my feet in exchange for my books and my love of reading, I would spurn them all."

—ERNEST DRESSER NORTH.

The Changing Public Library

By CLARENCE E. SHERMAN

Librarian, Providence, R. I., Public Library

THE AMERICAN public library is coming of age. For, as a so-called philosopher has sagely expressed it, a score of years brings man to majority; five score his institutions to maturity. If this be accepted as true, then in the passing of these respective periods of years, both man and any instrument which he creates to do his work show forth, as those terminal points are reached, certain traits and trends so indelibly impressed by the formative experience of the past, that their respective destinies, though not rigidly fixed, are at least clearly defined.

In 1933, the American public library may, if it chooses, celebrate the One Hundredth Anniversary of its origin. It was in the month of April, 1833, that another attractive New England town,¹ Peterborough, New Hampshire, gave birth to a great communal idea,—the idea that a common collection of books, a library by all, of all, and for all the people of the community should and could be maintained free to all on the same terms. The date of the event being but fifteen years earlier than the establishment of the association whose library in 1859 became the Winchester Public Library, identifies the two libraries so closely with the same period of history that much of what I shall say about changing conditions,—social, industrial, or bibliothecal,—may have more than a remote application to the town and the public library under whose auspices we are meeting today.

This by-product of the American conception of democracy, the free public library, like the federal constitution adopted by our colonial fathers, quickly projected itself to distant points, both at home and abroad. Today, we are told that not a single city or town in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts lacks a public library. In but one important city in our entire country is there no library free to all its citizens. And even across the Atlantic to England, Scotland, Denmark and other countries did the germ spread. Now the free public library is a well known institution, playing

a useful part in the enrichment of community life, in helping to push back the frontiers of intellectual indifference and ignorance. And during the passage of these hundred years or less, the public library as a social institution has, in evolving from its infancy, developed certain characteristics, certain activities, certain community responsibilities, which have endured while other experimental tendencies have appeared and later disappeared. So it is at this time possible to view the American public library in terms of an early adulthood, not unchanging, of course, but with qualities and abilities better established and more clearly understood than ever before in its history.

Yes, nearly a hundred years separate us from the inception of the free public library, and what a century it has been! The United States then a nation hardly in adolescence, its western boundary stopping at the mid-riff of the continent, with such great areas as California, Texas and much of the Rocky Mountain region possessed by Mexico. A nation with a population of only 13,000,000, a population which had not yet received its great influx of non-English speaking peoples from Central and Southern Europe. A people just emerging from the handicraft stage to elementary industrialism. A country still with simple means of power production, transportation and communication; the horseless carriage and the flying machine only the dreams of "crank" minds.

The family, the home and the church were the centers of social life. The standards of ethical conduct were not yet freed from the direct influence of the Pilgrim and Puritan moral codes.

Education was closely associated with the 3 R's. Few boys and girls had the advantage of an academy or high school education, and still fewer went to college.

The newspaper was usually a weekly with attention limited almost entirely to local and national issues. George Washington's warning against entangling alliances over-seas was still fresh in the minds of all editors and most newspaper readers.

As for books, domestic production was extremely barren. Except for the writings of the early theologians, a few diarists and poets, American authorship offered the reading pub-

¹ The claims of priority on behalf of Salisbury, Conn., are not overlooked in this consideration.

Read at the dedication of the Winchester, Mass., Public Library, Dec. 5, 1931, a description of which will be given in the next number.

lic little more than Irving and Cooper. By drawing upon the resources of England, better fare was possible, including among others the works of Scott, Defoe, Bunyan, Swift, Addison, Steele, Richardson, Goldsmith, Wordsworth, Keats and Coleridge.

A hard-working people, living rather close to the soil, with leisure opportunities limited to a few wealthy property owners, life was, as we would regard it, rather simple and elemental. Without the distractions of a great variety of recreational opportunities, such as are ours today, reading was a favorite year-round activity and the privileges of a free public library were naturally received with open arms and used with pleasure and satisfaction.

As we turn the page of this historical comparison and come suddenly upon our own time, what a transformation do we find! Not only has our territorial expansion crossed the continent, but it has taken us to colonial possessions. Our population, multiplied ten times, is a mixture of all nations and races. In many a New England city more than twenty different languages are spoken today. Gone is the handicraft stage in our economic development. Completely mechanized, thoroughly organized and merged is our modern industrial structure. At our command are the most highly developed and equipped means of transportation and communication that marine, locomotive, automotive, telephonic and aviation genius can devise.

The home, while possessing conveniences and comforts undreamed of a century ago, is a mere shell of its former self, so far as its essential influence upon the individual is concerned. Apartment and tenement life build up little resistance to the lure of external attractions—the motor car is owned by 20 per cent of our national population, and the appeal of the moving picture theatres brings out of the home each week more than 90,000,000 men, women and children.

Moral standards have changed. Freedom and frankness are the order of the day in speech, in the daily paper, in narrative fiction and in the drama. How much the emancipation of woman has had to do with this, hardly becomes a member of my sex to discuss.

Education is no longer a precious experience. It is a commonly expected and casually accepted privilege. Almost everybody goes to high school and only "nobodies," to use a social register expression, avoid entering college.

As to the printed page, a mountain of print is pushed up above the topographical landscape annually. Millions of copies of daily papers and millions of copies of magazines and trade journals are turned off by the presses. No

longer is our current literature provincial, at least in scope, though it may often appear provincial in editorial viewpoint. The political problems and the commercial perplexities of the entire world are our consideration within a few hours after they are the news of the day in their own countries.

As for books, more than 8,000 different titles are published each year in these United States, and in addition to these books, our bookstores, our libraries and our book reviewing publications give much consideration and not a little space to the publications of the literature of almost the entire world, both in the original and in translated editions.

Today, with more leisure (even before the depression) than any other age has known, but with more distractions and amusements in sports, games, the motor car, radio, clubs and the like—outlets for recreation far more spectacular and less taxing upon the mental equipment than reading—the question might naturally be asked, Has reading held its own in the face of such changes? Has this old fashioned custom survived?

The answer is "Yes," most emphatically "Yes," and the reasons are three in number. First, the continued extension of free public education. Second, the diversity of appeal in the great variety of subjects about which writers now write and publishers now publish. And third, the development of the free public library. As time is limited, I shall confine my attention to the third factor.

For the first few decades following its birth, the American public library developed along very conservative lines. Still influenced by the museum standards of librarianship in which the preservation of literature was a dominating force, its progress was more in the direction of testing and establishing primary principles and practices, of organizing the library as a collection of books. Hence, problems of classification and cataloging were most prominent. But the organizing of a national professional association of librarians in 1876, the American Library Association, gave a great impetus to what might be called the "new freedom" in public library administration. The study of more liberal borrowing privileges and charging systems that would help to promote book lending; the development of a library architecture in which book use would be given quite as much if not more attention than book storage; access to the shelves by the reading public; separating a function like reference service from the confusion of the circulation area in order to give better service; further departmentalization to include a place for children, service for engineers, mechanics and

other technical workers, a department for artists and musicians, facilities for business men; extension in cities so as to bring library service via branch libraries to the various neighborhoods and in rural areas, by travelling automobile libraries; making the community conscious of its library through publicity; and finally and quite as important as the rest, the conception of the task of a librarian as a professional responsibility, requiring an educational background and a technical preparation worthy of carefully organized training courses, and, for larger libraries and more responsible positions, even post graduate study in a library school.

And so today, the American public library has, through the democratic basis upon which it is founded, through the spirit of its service, through the conception of its function as a workshop rather than a "monument of vanished minds," a public utility rather than a local luxury, won a place in the community life of the nation. Today, there need be no fear of book hunger while the public libraries of the nation have ready for the use of the people more than 150,000 million books. And no more emphatic testimony as to the value of the public libraries of America is required than a mental picture of the 19,000,000 reader's cards in use and the 336,000,000 books drawn by these readers for use at home annually.²

That legislative bodies with control over the town or city's purse strings believe that the public library is a valuable civic asset is supported by the appropriations made from public funds which for the country as a whole exceed \$52,000,000 annually. The total public library bill of the United States, including receipts from gifts and other sources, amounts to more than \$70,000,000 yearly. But lest you be startled into joining the group of those who view all big expenditures with alarm, may I remind you of our national expenditures for past and future wars, for the suppression of crime, and other items of nation-wide expense which so completely overshadow the public library item as to place it in the class with the national ice cream or chewing gum bill.

So much for the past and the present. As we look about us in this handsome structure, the new home of an old and well-established institution, our thoughts not unnaturally turn toward the future. We know what the public library has been and is, but what interests us more is, what is it going to be? Perhaps we should follow the advice of an old lady I once met, in the pages of a book, who refused to listen to a sermon, read a book, or engage in a

discussion of the future life. "If you do too much speculating and anticipating, you may dull the real joy of the experience," she declared. But even at this risk, let us consider for a moment some of the future-guiding principles and activities of public libraries, at least, some that are possible.

First, is the position of the printed page as an instrument for acquiring information, as a direct aid to the process of learning, and as a pleasurable recreation provider assured? About ten years ago, Mr. Thomas A. Edison said that the book would soon be replaced by the moving picture. Others have predicted that the radio, "piped to one's home or office," would do all that the printed newspaper, magazine, or book can do and at less effort for the individual. But these and every other substitute advanced thus far, have certain disadvantages which will continue to keep the printed page in a secure place. The book, for example, possesses a "time" advantage over the radio program; a "time and place" advantage over the moving picture. It offers the opportunity for re-viewing the difficult section or the pleasure-giving portion. Furthermore, the book, in the educational process cannot be bluffed or bamboozled. The process of listening to radio words or looking at motion pictures, though informing and valuable as supplementary experience, is seldom educating. It cannot take the place of the process of reading, of analysis and of quiet reflection.

And this leads to what may be regarded as the public library's most important function in future years. America has recently made a great discovery. We have been told and some of us are coming to believe that education is a life-long experience, not a compartmented period in preparing for life. Educators and psychologists are stating that education should not terminate with school or even college days. In short, education goes on and on with the truly educated. And strange as it may seem, adults can, if they desire, learn without great difficulty and the experience is not at all juvenile nor undignified.

School and college develop within us certain mental training skills, stuff in a few principles, a varied assortment of formulae, dates and other impedimenta. And then we step out, educated, with minds equipped, as we evaluate them, to help us to take that place in life which our ambitions have set up for us. As for learning anything except how to make more money, play better golf or bridge, education has no longer any purpose unless we have children on whom to inflict it.

But the really, truly educated man and woman continue learning as long as they live—

² Approximate figures for 1920.

taking an excursion along some pathway in art, science, philosophy or literature, an intellectual voyage of discovery, broadening one's perspective, keeping one's mind like a sound body, in a rich, healthy glow. As Robert Louis Stevenson so well expressed it,

"The world is so full of a number of things,
I'm sure we should all be as happy as kings."

Utilizing our intellectual royal prerogatives, we should become monarchs of all that we can wisely survey, learning while living.

This educational continuation experience is possible through the excellent extension courses offered by many of our universities, and there are other classroom opportunities for those of the great out-of-school population with an urge for learning. But the American public library, if adequately and wisely stocked with books, and if "staffed" with competent guides to reading, can reach many adults who are never to be tempted to enter a classroom. By the preparation of reading and study courses, and by providing the readers with the books included therein, the public library may indeed merit the title of "The People's College," a term carelessly tossed at it not infrequently in past years. For after all, self-education is a very natural form of learning. In fact, it is the most ancient of all forms. (Who taught the first teacher?) So, for those who are appealed to by the convenience and informality of broadening their knowledge and understanding of the world in which they live through systematic reading—reading with a purpose—the public library has much to offer.

I believe that the public library of the next few decades will also develop to a far greater degree than it has so far, its great information and research possibilities. Although some of the larger library systems are organized to meet the demands of industry, the scholar, the student and the unattached individual with an intellectual curiosity, all public libraries have a long way to go before they are truly prepared as they should be, both as to printed aids and as to a competent personnel. In order to promote these more significant activities, as I consider them, it may become necessary to take account of stock and reduce the emphasis on certain existing functions. This can be done with little loss in the service value of the library by modifying the circulation of narrative fiction. While I should not like to decrease the library's usefulness as an agency for wholesome recreational reading, too much of this reading, even in our most carefully administered public libraries is of a trivial nature. Fewer and better novels with more money for more copies of the worth while books in travel,

history, biography, science and the rest, is a more hopeful course to take, in my opinion.

It is not easy to introduce this policy. The public library has not been entirely free from the influence of the Machine Age. Quantity of activity, or "production" as it might be called, as reflected in circulation statistics, has been used as a measuring stick of success by trustees, librarians and appropriating bodies. It will require a stout heart to face the interrogations which smaller circulation statistics will cause if emphasis on fiction be lessened.

One or two other qualities that I hope to see characterizing future public library management: It would appear that although in earlier days of public library history, the readers considered it a great privilege to be able to draw books for home reading, constantly liberalizing the borrowing privileges has helped to develop a softening of moral responsibility. The public library in most cities and towns today devotes the time of many assistants, and funds which should be used for more constructive purposes, to the task of getting books back from readers to whom they have been charged. This failure on the part of the reading public to accept their obvious responsibility in a plan which depends for its success upon the principle of cooperation is giving the public librarians of America not a little worry. The loss of books from the shelves and the mutilation of print in our libraries are also perplexing problems. It is not beyond the limits of possibility that the next decade may show a tendency to tighten up, a slight withdrawal of some of the freedom with which the resources of our public libraries are now used. To penalize the many for the acts of a few is always a regrettable step to take. But when the few become too active, there is but one way of preserving the fundamental principle upon which public parks, public playgrounds and public libraries are established, the equal opportunity to use public property, and that way is in the direction of re-organizing on a basis which is in tune with the time and the moral fibre of those who are served by our public institutions.

But enough of the drab side. The first century of public library progress in America has established several principles which justify the action and commend the wisdom of those Peterborough pioneers. In the first place, there is a great need in every community of a repository and service-station where printed material on both sides of all matters of common interest is obtainable. Especially is this true in these days when there are so many efforts, organized and unorganized, to stifle the other fellow's point of view, when so many so-called personal convictions are really sym-

bols of intolerance. Furthermore, in a democracy where the strength of the government depends to no small degree upon the intelligence of the electorate, it is most essential that printed matter relating to political and social problems be obtainable in a non-partisan institution, under whose protection the statements of both sides of an issue may be found and read far from the maddening crowd of haranguing orators.

Thus, has the American public library changed and thus does it bid fair to continue to change. For like the school, the university or any other social force, so long as society changes, its institutions must also change, or atrophy is the penalty. That community life has been enriched because of the public library during the past two or three generations, is I believe, not difficult to prove. I have tried to present some testimony in its behalf during the course of my remarks. In an age like the present, when life is a racing, roaring experience, there is especial need of a book-house by the side of the road, where the tired mind and the weary spirit may find sanctuary before the altar of the printed page. The healing influence of reading, if it serves no greater purpose than to endow some of us with a perspective, a vision of the whither of contemporary life, will be worth much to mankind.

And so as this beautiful building is dedicated to its noble purpose, to the further de-

velopment of the career of usefulness which the Winchester Public Library has been pursuing these many years, may all who pass its doors read, at least in imagination, engraved in golden letters above the entrance, not "Stop, Look and Listen," the slogan of a hectic world, reluctant even to pause—but rather a message of hope, a message of encouragement, a message of infinite possibilities—"Come. Read. Think. Decide."

As a Librarian's benediction, I would close with these words:

May this library ever be endowed with the holy trinity of public library blessings: a Board of Trustees of broad, tolerant views with vision to see the library's real mission and with courage to cling to it; a Librarian and Staff of assured technical ability as organizers of books, equipped with a knowledge of what lies within the covers of many books, but more important still, who find satisfaction and joy in serving as guides, philosophers and friends of readers; and last but not least, a great and growing Reading Public, to whom books are practical aids and for whom reading is high adventure. Strengthened and supported by these allies, may this library become the veritable hub of your little universe, the cross roads for the passing and the meeting of all men, women and children who turn to the book for recreation, for information, for education and for inspiration.

MANY TIMES in my life I have repeated Rodin's saying, a true maxim for every craftsman, that "slowness is beauty"—but until those days in the hospital I never knew fully what it meant. To read slowly, to think slowly, to feel slowly and deeply: what enrichment! In the past I have been so often greedy. I have gobbled down innumerable facts, ideas, stories, poetical illusions—I have gobbled down work—I have even gobbled down my friends!—and indeed had a kind of enjoyment of all of them—but rarely have I tasted the last flavour of anything, the final exquisite sense of personality or spirit that secretes itself in every work that merits serious attention, in every human being at all worth knowing. But in those heavenly evenings of silence and solitude I read only a little at a time and only the greatest books, especially those great-small books in which some master spirit has completely delivered himself. I read until I came upon something that stirred me deep down, something strong and hard, something a little difficult, at first, to understand, and there I stopped and slowly, slowly, turned it over in my mind until I knew exactly what it was the prophet or poet or the philosopher was trying to say to me. And always, I found, the subtlest beauties, the deepest truths, came last.

—DAVID GRAYSON in *Adventures in Solitude*

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

June 15, 1932

Editorial

FREE LIBRARIES, it should not be forgotten, should be counted among public works of primary importance for, though they are not self-liquidating in money, they are more than that in the relief they furnish as a remedy against depression and in the stimulus and helpfulness which they give to citizens and earners of the future. They should therefore be considered in any scheme for public support, certainly much more so than post office buildings in minor localities, where the purpose is to spend public money in supplying jobs rather than to consider the immediate public service for which the money pays. There are cases in which authorizations, as of branch libraries, have been made, but rescinded because of the economy forced by the depression without considering how much the library means in these emergency days, and how thoroughly they reach down to the forgotten man at the bottom about whom we are hearing again. The man in the street, with time which is no longer money hanging heavily on his hands, walks into the public library and asks for his book, whether vocational to help him as a potential earner or recreational to fill his superfluous time, and certainly he should not be left out of the picture. Of course, none of this building program can be an immediate remedy since for new buildings land must be acquired, plans made and contracts let; but it will not do to let an opportunity go by which is peculiarly opportune. There is no longer a Carnegie to be the "angel" and the Carnegie Corporation has decided that it can be more helpful to the library system nowadays in other ways than in grants for buildings. And so it is for the community to become the angel of light and leading in this field.

THERE IS one point as to library economy, in the double sense of that much used word, which should also be impressed at this time. Many libraries have been so cut in their appropriations as all the library world knows, that it has been necessary to dis-

charge assistants and to cut the salaries of those remaining despite the fact that the circulation and reference demands have increased in large proportions because of the depression. Library salaries should not be cut at this time for the special reason that assistants have been doing in some cases 20 per cent more work in serving the increasing demands of the public at the same salaries which were given in easier times and to make a double slap in the face by salary reduction and by increasing work would be unfortunate indeed. Where the budget is in question care should be taken to give full publicity to this significant fact and enlist the aid of associations and groups outside the library field which have reason to know of how much value the libraries are under present circumstances. Such cooperation has been asked in some quarters, and is willingly accorded and this sort of cooperation in behalf of overworked librarians should be requested in all communities wherever practicable.

"THERE IS no time, be it a period of depression or one of prosperity, when a library does not have a message to convey to the people who use and support it," says Mr. Vitz in his article on "Library Publicity and Depression" printed elsewhere in this number. He points out that the reasons publicity often fails is either because it is prepared by professional advertising men, who have failed to catch the true significance of library service, or by a member of the staff to whom it is merely a routine or perfunctory job. Again it may be unsuccessful because it lacks zest and imagination as illustrated in numerous bulletins and reports published annually by libraries. In a time of depression when the public does not look kindly upon costly publicity, there is still left the avenues of newspaper publicity, the spoken word through the radio or otherwise and opportunities within the library such as bulletin boards and display windows. The winning and keeping of public support is important for in the final analysis, as Mr. Vitz says, "the foundation is no more solid than the esteem in which the public holds it." This is all good doctrine which should just now be made use of by librarians.

THERE HAS been put forward by a Chicago citizen a suggestion that the mail method of voting, utilized by the American Library Association and by some other organizations, should be applied in the wider field and so save the expense of polling

places and other costly features of present methods. The plan has worked fairly well in the A. L. A. and it would be well if some local community would put the method into operation and perhaps really accomplish results which would justify so radical a change.

THAT MOST useful citizen, David Lawrence, whose Sunday evening radio talks on our government have been of the greatest public service, is developing the organization which he has instituted, the United States Society, into methods of usefulness in which the libraries may play an important part. The purpose is to stimulate good citizenship by information as to the workings of government, federal, state, municipal, and thus make voting more general, more intelligent and more efficient. To aid in this purpose, the Society is publishing weekly a periodical called *Uncle Sam's Diary*, and Libraries are to be supplied in each State as the Society at Washington and put this periodical and its auxiliary service before readers. Libraries are to be supplied in each State as soon as the State is organized and the periodical is to be furnished gratis as the Society is non-commercial.

EARLY in this century when the county library plan was in development, busses and automobiles were not, and that now extinct animal the horse was necessary to reach thirty of the sixty-six stations in Washington County, Maryland, which had become part of the county library system. When Mary Lemist Titcomb started that first pair of horses, drawing a Concord wagon adapted for library purposes, around the county in April, 1907, she could scarcely have imagined the far-reaching effect of her example. Ohio in two of its counties, Van Wert and Hamilton, and Maryland in Washington County had authorized by law, in 1898, the pioneer county systems which are associated with these names. Miss Titcomb came into the Maryland field in 1901, after her experience in library organization in Vermont, and showed an ability, energy and devotion which have made her name a household word throughout the library profession. Today the hundreds of book automobiles which supply country needs in many of our states and in some foreign countries are, as it were, traveling monuments to her genius of practical adaptation. She passed

on within this month at the ripe age of seventy-five, with nearly a half century of library service to her credit, and she will be missed by the many, many fellow-workers to whom in library conferences she had become a familiar figure and a loved companion.

Library Chat

UNDER the changed title of "Slips That Pass in the Night," the *Literary Digest* has a department of printer's errors, to which THE LIBRARY JOURNAL contributed last month when the distinguished medicine man Brett Young was treated as "mediocre" because of a printer's error. After proofs have been corrected the slugs are transferred to the stone for make-up, and in this case the line including Mr. Young was found defective and replaced, and the careless result of the second linotype operator did not come to editorial notice. The present writer recalls another slip, which happily did not get so far as print. An editorial note some years ago referred to librarians and booksellers of those days as looking on each other "askance," which, perhaps by mistake of the stenographer, was transmogrified in the proof to looking on each other "as scamps." Happily any misunderstanding was not aggravated by what might seem to be overmuch candor, but the item is an interesting contribution to "Slips That Pass in the Night."

ONE OF those excursions led us to Santa Barbara where there were many surprises. One of them was when I set eyes upon the reading court at a Free Public Library. I see it now in memory—the paved courtyard shaded by a canopy with a cool arched building of two stories, and a low wall with a doorway set in it enclosed the court. There, at ease, men sat smoking while they read. Flowering vines twined up the walls and clung to an upper balcony, and the air was sweet with the perfume of roses. Between the edge of the canopy and the housetop lay a belt of amethyst sky streaked with cloud-silver. As I looked a bird darted down, perched a moment on the back of a chair in rapt ecstasy, or profound wonder, then flew away. Never had I thought it possible to see such a sight in the workaday world."

From "All's Well" by Charles J. Finger.

Librarian Authors

MARY E. WHEELOCK has been supervisor of binding in the Cleveland, Ohio, Public Library for over nine years. She is a native of Grinnell, Iowa, and, with not quite two years' attendance at Grinnell College, was placed in charge of a small collection of books, the nucleus of the present Grinnell Public Library, in 1894. During her twelve years of service in this Library the book collection was increased to more than 10,000 volumes and a library building was erected. Her library training consisted of summer courses in the Cleveland Public Library in 1900 and in the library school at Iowa City during the Summers of 1902 and 1903.

A season of travel among public and college libraries in Iowa and Wisconsin in 1909, as representative of the Waldorf Library Bindery of St. Paul, Minnesota, acquainted her with some of the problems of binding in libraries. Eighteen months as librarian of the Oskaloosa, Iowa, Public Library preceded her ten years as supervisor of binding in the St. Louis, Missouri, Public Library (1911-1921), which latter afforded opportunity for excellent experience in the general care and binding of books. A year in the Des Moines, Iowa, Public Library, reorganizing and directing the binding and repair, and nine years as supervisor of binding in the Cleveland, Ohio, Public Library complete her record to date in the five libraries.

An article "New Books for Old," prepared as a supplement to the annual report of the St. Louis Public Library for 1915-1916, which described the organization and methods of the binding of that Library was also issued as a separate. A later publication was an article on the history and development of paper, originally prepared as a library school lecture and later extended and given at the annual convention of the Employing Bookbinders of America in New York in September, 1927. In 1928 this material was published by the A.L.A. Publishing Board under the title *Paper: Its History and Development*.

Miss Wheelock's interest in the essential business of caring for books in libraries brought appointment to the Bookbinding Committee of the A.L.A. on which she served for nine years as chairman. The tangible evidence of the combined efforts of several members of the Committee during this period is the pamphlet on *Care and Binding of Books and*



Photograph by courtesy of Bachrach
Mary E. Wheelock

Magazines, issued by the A.L.A. Publishing Board in 1928.

She has been a member of the A.L.A. since 1901, has given lectures on binding and repair in library schools and has contributed occasionally to library periodicals and to the *Bookbinding Magazine*. Her activities in connection with library binding called for cooperation with the Employing Bookbinders and attendance at their conventions when possible. In recognition of this cooperation, honorary membership in that organization has been accorded her for several years. She says: "Provision for proper care of book collections was never so imperative as in the present period of library expansion. Intelligent supervision of repair and binding soon yields returns in the longer service of the books and their improved appearance on the shelves."

EXTRA COPIES of the Dewey Supplement to the February 1 issue of THE LIBRARY JOURNAL are available at the offices of THE JOURNAL, 62 W. 45th Street, New York City, at a cost of 25c. each. Supply limited.

New Orleans Conference

Art Reference Round Table

SPECIAL GROUPS and Special Collections was the subject of the meeting April 26. Marian Comings, chairman, presided. Professor Ellsworth Woodward, Director Emeritus, H. Sophie Newcomb College, spoke on the "Literature of Southern Art." Miss Alice Bixby of the Ryerson Library, Chicago, discussed the notable collection of Japanese illustrated books in that library, and the work of Mr. Kenji Toda in cataloging it. The Costume Bibliography, now in preparation by the Grosvenor Library, Buffalo, N. Y., was described by Miss Florence Fuchs in a paper read by Dr. Shearer, Librarian. "Modern Architecture and the Allied Arts," was the subject of a paper written by Miss Winifred Fehrenkamp, of the Avery Library. All the speakers prepared bibliographies on their subjects, copies of which were distributed. Julia Merrill, Executive Assistant, A.L.A., reported on the meeting of the President's Conference on Home Building and Home Ownership. Mrs. Charles Scheuber, Fort Worth, Texas, discussed the answers to a questionnaire inquiring as to the initiative taken by libraries to promote art exhibitions in cities of moderate size. A report from the Costume Index Committee stated that the Wilson Company expected to begin work on the Index some time this year. The meeting Wednesday was a luncheon followed by talks on Negro and Folk Music of the South. The speakers were Mr. Leon Maxwell, Director Newcomb School of Music, and Miss Ola Wyeth, Librarian, Savannah, Ga. A letter from Dorothy Scarborough, author of *On the Trail of Negro Folk-Song*, was read, and a list of "Southern Folk Songs," made by R. Emmett Kennedy, was given each guest.

Chairman and Secretary for the coming year are, Miss Dorothy Breen, St. Louis Public Library, and Miss Agnes Savage, Detroit Museum of Art.

—DOROTHY BREEN.

Association American Library Schools

A MEETING of the Association of American Library Schools was held in New Orleans, Friday, April 29, 1932, with representatives of nineteen member schools present. Mr. Reece

presented the second report of the Committee on Student Load. It was voted to continue the sustaining membership in the A.L.A. Mr. Sydney B. Mitchell read a paper on "Ways and Means of Limiting the Number of Library School Students." Miss Harriet E. Howe read a paper on "Possibilities of Developing Satisfactory Aptitude Tests for Prospective Library School Students."

The following officers were elected: President, Dr. Arthur E. Bostwick, Director, St. Louis Library School; Vice-president, Miss Ethel M. Fair, Director, Library School, New Jersey College for Women.

—ISABELLA K. RHODES.

Bibliographical Society of America

THE BIBLIOGRAPHICAL Society of America at its semi-annual meeting in New Orleans held two sessions on April 29. The first, in the afternoon at The Roosevelt Hotel, was unusually well attended. At this meeting practically all the business of the Society was transacted and two papers were presented. The evening meeting was held at Loyola University, at which time three papers were presented.

The business may be rapidly summarized as follows: The membership was reported as 395, a slight increase over a year ago, of whom twenty-four were new members added during the year. The Treasurer's report, of date December 31, 1931, was read, quoting the sums in the various funds. The Index to the publications of the Bibliographical Society of London and of the British Library Association, being prepared by George Watson Cole, will be financed through subscriptions from members (sent to Mr. Faxon, Treasurer) with the expectation that each member shall receive one. The Society endorsed a project for a finding list of U. S. newspaper files from 1820, where Brigham left off, to date. Mr. Meyer reported on the British Museum Catalog that due to lack of clerical assistance, but two volumes have appeared this year. The Gesamtatalog of the Prussian Libraries has been held up for the same reason; 225 subscriptions of the 300 necessary, have been received. Mr. Lydenberg reported concerning the completion of Sabin's *Dictionary of Books Relating to America*, that the editorial staff has promised this by the end of 1933. Reelection of the panel of officers closed the business meeting.

In the afternoon session two papers on Special Collections in the South were read, E. W. Winkler discussing the southwest, and Dr. Louis R. Wilson the southeast. The evening session included "A Definition of Bibliography" by Dr. Pierce Butler, a paper by George L. McKay on "Robert Bridges," and an excellent discussion prepared by Edward LaRocque Tinker on "Charles Gayarré," who was the first historian of Louisiana.

—AUGUSTUS H. SHEARER.

League of Library Commissions

THE WIDE field of library activity covered by state extension agencies made it seem advisable to hold joint meetings with the County Libraries Section, the Trustees Section and the Library Extension Board of the American Library Association. Consequently three such sessions were held, a fourth on the afternoon of April 29, being devoted entirely to the business of the League.

The officers for the coming year are: President, Essae M. Culver; First Vice-President, Adeline J. Pratt; Second Vice-President, E. Louise Jones; Secretary, Hazel B. Warren; Members, Executive Committee: Frank L. Tolman, Malcolm G. Wyer, Jane Morey.

Library Buildings Round Table

MEETING called to order by Chairman at 10:10 A.M., at the Jung Hotel. (a) Dr. Gerould of Princeton reported on the new book on *College Library Architecture* of which he is the author, which is being published through the generosity of the Carnegie Corporation. (b) Paper by Joseph L. Wheeler of Baltimore entitled "A Service of Architectural and Engineering Information for Libraries" was read by Mr. Howard L. Hughes. After reading Mr. Wheeler's paper Mr. Hughes proposed the following resolution.

Resolved: That the Library Buildings Round Table, meeting at New Orleans, April 28, 1932, calls attention to the great need of a comprehensive book on public library buildings, emphasizing their planning to further the changing services of the modern library, their economy as to construction and operating, and the problems involved in their undertaking and completion. The Round Table requests the Executive Board and the Editorial Committee to consider this need and to secure funds for a grant-in-aid for the preparation of such a book, with the further idea that a supplement of developments and plans may be issued subsequently, possibly at five year intervals.

Resolution was passed unanimously and Chairman of the meeting instructed to see that the matter is brought to the attention of the proper authorities. (c) A paper was read by Mr. Clarence E. Sherman of Providence, entitled "The Influence of Climate on Library Architecture." This paper is the first serious contribution to library literature on this topic. (d) Mr. Willis K. Stetson discussed informally the matter of sloped book shelves for fiction, book supports, and book stops. (e) Chairman brought to the attention of the group the appointment by the A. L. A. of a special committee on Library Equipment and Devices, and considerable discussion on equipment followed. (f) Dr. James T. Gerould, Librarian at Princeton, was elected chairman of the Library Buildings Round Table for the coming year.

—ORLANDO C. DAVIS.

Small Libraries Round Table

THE SMALL LIBRARIES Round Table was held Saturday morning, April 30, with Miss Pearl I. Field of the Henry E. Legler Regional Branch Library of Chicago presiding. Despite the fact that the meeting was scheduled for the last day of the Conference, after six days of constant meeting, it was quite an enthusiastic and well attended round table.

The first speaker introduced was Mr. Ralph Munn of Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, who talked on "Book Problems without Books." Mr. Munn introduced his talk with the assumption that the tax supported library would feel the pinch of hard times for several years, regardless of any improvement in business conditions, and based his talk on definite ways for meeting the economic situation. Mr. Munn stated that books and librarians were the real stock and trade of a library and all other expenses came under overhead, and in searching for economies he began with overhead expenses and cleverly listed, in thought provoking headings, nine definite ways of reduction. Mr. Ralph C. McDade, from the University of Tennessee, led the spirited discussion following Mr. Munn's true and false statements of ways and means to reduce overhead expenses. Negro Library Service was handled by Miss Hoyland L. Wilson, Carnegie Library, Clarksdale, Mississippi. Miss Wilson treated the subject as related to Negro Service in the South and especially her own county. "Radio Programs" was discussed by Mrs. Frances Clarke Sayers, who pointed out the advantage of the radio service to both the library and the community and how the ad-

vantage doubled when used cooperatively. Mrs. Sayers named the usual ways of advertising, such as book lists, book reviews and story hours given over the local broadcast as a means of attracting new borrowers and stimulating old ones; but the stress of her talk was laid on the service the library could be to the community by cooperating with the national broadcast and their educational programs. In the main Mrs. Sayers feels that a great deal of the valuable material that is being broadcast today will be lost unless the library does its part in advertising these programs and sponsoring some kind of follow up scheme locally. After a five minute question period when Mrs. Sayers answered questions and gave names and addresses for source material the meeting adjourned to allow a close up examination of the interesting bulletin material Mrs. Sayers had on display.

Officers for the coming year: Chairman: Mrs. Cora Case Porter, Librarian, Public Library, Muskogee, Okla.; Secretary, Miss Ruth Bean, Chief of Staff, Public Library, Evansville, Ind.

Economies in Other Libraries

Book Purchase

(Including Binding, Gifts, Juvenile Orders, Magazines, Pay copies, and Reference books.)

Policies:

San Diego—Most usable bought. Ignored current demands.

L. J. May 15, 1930:444

Toledo—Reverse of above plan.

L. J. Feb. 1, 1932:115

Toledo—Buying for current demand only.

L. J. Sept. 15, 1931:755

Cooperative Buying Urged on:

Smaller libraries under leadership of New York State Library.

A. L. A. Bul. Feb. 1932:71

Book Purchases:

Chicago—All book buying suspended.

L. J. Dec. 1, 1931:982

Evansville—Practically suspended.

L. J. Dec. 1, 1931:982

Fall River—Practically suspended.

L. J. Dec. 1, 1931:982

Grand Rapids—Replacements suspended.

L. J. Dec. 1, 1931:982

Grand Rapids—Foreign books cut.

L. J. Dec. 1, 1931:982

Grand Rapids—Books for hospital services cut.

L. J. Dec. 1, 1931:982

Lima—Cancel "shorts."

L. J. Dec. 1, 1931:982

Compiled by the Staff of the Montclair, New Jersey, Free Public Library. As recorded in library publications from July 1930 through April 1932. While a list such as this may become out-of-date almost as soon as it is compiled, it has value to libraries which are attempting to learn quickly the economies instituted by other libraries without sending out questionnaires. The references given here are to library publications very generally available. Many valuable annual reports were not at hand for the compilers and were omitted for that reason alone.

Grand Rapids—Branch orders suspended for four months.

L. J. Dec. 1, 1931:982

Toledo—Technical GAPS only, were filled.

L. J. Feb. 1, 1932:115

Chicago—172 out of 1,350 fiction titles purchased.

L. J. Dec. 1, 1931:984

Savannah—Recreational and ephemeral books cut.

An. rept. 1931:3

Binding:

Chicago—Constant.

L. J. Dec. 1, 1931:982

Lima—Constant for books and magazines, newspapers unbound.

A. L. A. Bul. Dec. 1931:704

Norfolk—Mending by staff greatly increased.

An. Rept. 1931

Toledo—Accelerated.

L. J. Feb. 1, 1932:116

Gifts:

Madison—Curtains and paint for children's room. \$50 from a church school.

An. Rept. 1931

Association of German Public Libraries—Books solicited by letter.

L. J. Jan. 15, 1932:92

Lima—Books for hospitals from clubs.

A. L. A. Bul. Feb. 1932:20

Syracuse—Books for children from friends.

An. Rept. 1931:2

Toledo—"1,500 usable books received." Solicited by letters and book marks in packages.

L. J. Feb. 1, 1932:115

Iowa State College—Gifts and "expensive luxury." Scrutinized acceptances.

A. L. A. Bul. Feb. 1932:17

Juveniles:

Toledo—Replacement reduced.

L. J. Feb. 1, 1932:115

Grand Rapids—The last of all cuts.

An. Rept. 1929-30:26

Grand Rapids—School reference books omitted.

An. Rept. 1929-30:26

Magazines:

St. Louis—Visible record used.

An. Rept. 1930:28

Iowa State College—List scaled down; binding cut; Interloan developed.

A. L. A. Bul. Feb. 1932:76

Los Angeles—List cut.

L. J. Apr. 1, 1932:335

Toledo—Gifts solicited.

L. J. Feb. 1, 1932:115

Pay Copies:

San Diego—Non-fiction strengthened.

L. J. May 15, 1930:444

San Diego; Lima; Whiteville, N. C.—Fiction strengthened, proves popular.

L. J. May 15, 1930:444; A. L. A. Bul. Dec. 1931:704;

L. J. May 1, 1932:431

Chicago—Policy to decrease fiction.

L. J. Dec. 1, 1931:983

Toledo—All fiction bought in 1931 is rented. Much publicity. No change in per cent of fiction circulated.

L. J. Feb. 1, 1932:115

Reference:

Huntington Library—Photostat: Greatly increased use reported.

L. J. May 1, 1932:434

U. S. Navy Dep't. Bureau of Navigation Library—Photostat: Greatly increased use reported.

L. J. Mar. 1, 1932:229-30

Iowa State College—Photostat: Greatly increased use reported.

A. L. A. Bul. Feb. 1932:76

Grand Rapids—Purchase of school reference books eliminated.

An. Rept. 1929:26

Toledo—Background and research material omitted; buying instead for current demand.

L. J. Feb. 1, 1932:115

New York City Library—College and high school students barred from Main Reference rooms.

L. J. Jan. 1, 1931:33

Elizabeth—At night operates a high school room.

An. Rept. 1931:9

Madison, N. J.—Pamphlet material substituted for books.

An. Rept. 1931.

Buildings

(Including Auditoriums, Branches, Equipment, Reading Rooms and Provision against Theft.)

Auditorium:

Syracuse—Use restricted.

An. Rept. 1931:2

Elizabeth—Converted into High School reference room at night.

An. Rept. 1931:9

Reading Rooms:

Providence—Club room opened down town.

A. L. A. Bul. Feb. 1932:69

Montclair—Station in Employment Center.

A. L. A. Bul. Feb. 1932:69

Minneapolis—Stations in lodging houses.

A. L. A. Bul. Feb. 1932:69

Providence—Time limit established at Main. Attendants to keep tally.

A. L. A. Bul. Feb. 1932:69

Equipment:

Grand Rapids—Automatic stokers discarded.

An. Rept. 1929:26

Toledo—Repairs deferred.

L. J. Feb. 1, 1932:114

Newark—More signs, shelf labels, etc.

An. Rept. 1931

Grosvenor—Telecall system installed.

An. Rept. 1931:7

Grosvenor—Many office machines added.

An. Rept. 1931:7

Thefts:

Brooklyn, etc.—Prison sentence.

L. J. Feb. 1, 1932:140

Elizabeth—Entrance changed, but to little purpose. More help needed.

An. Rept. 1931:7

Harvard—Turnstile at exit. 85% decrease in loss.

L. J. May 1, 1932:436

Cleveland—Guards—Checkroom.

Democourier, May, 1932:4

Branches:

Cincinnati—Opening of a new branch postponed.

L. J. Sept. 15, 1931:754

Fall River—One-third personnel eliminated. Citizens give funds for partial re-opening.

L. J. Sept. 15, 1931:754

Charlotte—All school branches closed.

L. J. Oct. 15, 1931:859

Grand Rapids—Postponed opening of two school branches.

An. Rept. 1929:7

Routines

(Including Charging Methods, Inventories, Job Analysis, Overdues, Printing and Registration.)

Registration:

Minneapolis—All guarantors omitted; addresses not verified.

A. L. A. Bul. Mar. 1932:139

Printing:

Minneapolis—Multigraphing substituted for lists and forms.

A. L. A. Bul. Mar. 1932:139

Minneapolis—Annual report cut out.

A. L. A. Bul. Mar. 1932:139

Overdues:

Brooklyn—Special messenger, motor bicycle.

L. J. May 1, 1932:424

Maplewood—Police department used.

An. Rept. 1931:6

Toledo—Ordinance imposing fine.

L. J. Mar. 1, 1931:230

Newark—Forgiveness week, fines cancelled—\$4,200 in non-collectable fines, 7,500 books returned.

L. J. May 1932:424-438

Westerley, R. I.—Forgiveness week, 40 books returned.

An. Rept. 1931:4

Minneapolis—Number of notices cut, the first cent at the end of three weeks.

A. L. A. Bul. Mar. 1932:139

St. Louis—Fewer notices, books issued for 28 days.

An. Rept. 1930:23, 26-6

Charging Methods:

Newark—Charging machines installed. Books all returned to special room.

An. Rept. 1931

St. Louis—Detroit system and charging machines installed.

An. Rept. 1931:23

Grand Rapids—1,000 increase each day. More help necessary. Greater wear on books.

An. Rept. 1930:7

Job Analysis:

Minneapolis—Made by a staff committee.

A. L. A. Bul. Mar. 1932:138

Inventories:

Minneapolis—Cut out.

A. L. A. Bul. Mar. 1932:139

Salaries

Portland, Oregon—Cut 10 per cent for salaries over \$70 a month.

L. J. Mar. 15, 1932

Grand Rapids—No new appointments.

An. Rept. 1929:27

Pasadena—No new appointments.

L. J. Sept. 15, 1931:754

Lima—No new appointments.

A. L. A. Bul. Dec. 1931:705

Toledo—No new appointments.

L. J. Feb. 1, 1932:114

Detroit—No summer substitutes.

L. J. Sept. 15, 1931:755

Queens Borough—No cuts in salary.

An. Rept. 1931

San Diego—No cuts in salary.

L. J. May 15, 1930:444

Toledo—No cuts in salary.

L. J. Sept. 15, 1931:755

Grand Rapids—No cuts in salary; and increases as usual (1929).

L. J. May 15, 1930:442

Furloughs:

Chicago—Vacations without pay.

L. J. Sept. 15, 1931:754

Sacramento—1 week furlough.

Wilson Bul. Apr. 1932:561

Services

(Including Circulation, Hours of Opening, Interloan, Lectures and Reserving of Books.)

Reserves:

Minneapolis—Discontinued.

A. L. A. Bul. Mar. 1932:139

Lima—Price increased.

A. L. A. Bul. Dec. 1931:704

Newark—Simpler method for search.

An. Rept. 1931

Circulation:

Chicago—Exploiting of old books by staff.

L. J. Dec. 1, 1931:983

Minneapolis—Unlimited number loaned for one month because of summer evening closing, 5 nights weekly.

A. L. A. Bul. Mar. 1932:139

Hours:

Detroit—Cut—12-hour day to 10 hours.

L. J. Sept. 15, 1931:755

Charlotte—Main—1 hour less daily; branch hours shortened.

L. J. Oct. 15, 1931:859

Grand Rapids—Closed Sundays and holidays.

An. Rept. 1929:7

Minneapolis—Closed all evenings except Monday during 3 summer months and closed Saturday afternoons and Sundays, May to October.

A. L. A. Bul. Mar. 1932:139

Pasadena—Closed Saturday afternoons and evenings and Sunday.

L. J. Sept. 15, 1931:754

Sacramento—Closed Sundays.

Wilson Bul. Apr. 1932:561

Toledo—Main opens later in morning, branches closed 1 night weekly.

L. J. Feb. 1, 1932:114

Chicago—Branches on 8 hour schedule, "meant doing 12 hours work in 8." Great increase in phone calls about hours.

L. J. Dec. 1, 1931:982

Elizabeth—Branch junior department closed at night.

An. Rept. 1931:4

Syracuse—Shortened schedule for branches. All branches closed Saturday afternoons and evenings.

An. Rept. 1931:2

San Diego—Shortened schedule for branches. All branches closed Saturday afternoons and evenings; also main closed to public more hours; open 11 A.M. to 7:30 P.M.

L. J. May 15, 1930:444

Interloan:

Maplewood, N. J.—Borrows technical books from N. J. Library Commission.

An. Rept. 1931:3

Royal Oak, Wis.—Foreign books.

L. J. Apr. 1, 1932:324

Iowa State College—Magazine interloan increased.

A. L. A. Bul. Feb. 1932:76

Madison—Books for extension courses; 315 books from county library.

An. Rept. 1931

Iowa State College—Charge increased to \$1.00.

A. L. A. Bul. Feb. 1932:76

Grosvenor—Union catalog begun jointly with University of Buffalo.

An. Rept. 1931:6

Lectures:

Grand Rapids—Those paid for by Library omitted.

An. Rept. 1929:1926

Staff

(Including Assistants Dropped, Training Class, Transfers and New Duties. See also pages on Salaries.)

Assistants Dropped from Pay Roll:

Chicago and Fall River—Also all page service dropped.

L. J. Dec. 1, 1931:982; L. J. Sept. 15, 1931:754

San Diego—Also all page service dropped.

L. J. May 15, 1930:444

Toledo—Order department staff cut one-third.

L. J. Feb. 1, 1932:115

Training Class:

Detroit—Discontinued.

L. J. Sept. 15, 1931:755

Toledo—Discontinued.

L. J. Feb. 1, 1932:116

Brocklyn—Discontinued.

L. J. Feb. 1, 1932:116

Cincinnati—Postponed.

L. J. Sept. 15, 1931:754

Transfers and New Duties:

Toledo—Staff.

L. J. Feb. 1, 1932:114

Chicago—Staff.

L. J. Dec. 1, 1931:982

Grosvenor—Added purchasing agent.

An. Rept. 1931:8

Catalog Available

AN EXHIBITION to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Lewis Carroll was held in the Avery Library of Columbia University during the month of April. On May 4 the exhibition closed with a program of speaking and music in the University Gymnasium, with every seat filled. Mrs. Alice Pleasance Hargreaves, the original Alice of Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland* was one of the speakers. The date of May 4 was chosen because it was Mrs. Hargreaves' eightieth birthday. The principal address was made by Professor Harry Morgan Ayres. President Butler also spoke, and presented "Alice" with a specially bound copy of the catalog of the exhibition, which was the largest collection of Carrolliana ever brought together, containing a total of 415 items. An edition of 1500 copies of the catalog was printed for sale at the exhibition. A few copies remained on hand at the close of the exhibition and may be purchased by libraries from the Columbia University Press, at 35 cents each.

Danish Reference Library Established

THE FIRST reference library ever established outside the United States dealing with the subject of one race's immigration to America will be opened at Aalberg, Denmark, on July 3. The archives include virtually all available matter on Scandinavian migration to the United States and altogether about 4,000 books have been gathered plus a number of letters and pamphlets. The entire United States has sent manuscripts and books, but the bulk of the matter was sent from Chicago, largely through the activity of Dr. Max Henius, former president of the public library board, who gave his entire collection to the institution.

THE BUSINESS BOOK LEAGUE, 160 Fifth Avenue, N. Y. City, has published a descriptive pamphlet of "The 100 Best Business Books of 1931."

Current Library Literature

BODLEIAN LIBRARY. See OXFORD UNIVERSITY. BODLEIAN LIBRARY.

BOOK-BUYING

Munn, Ralph. Book problems without books. *A.L.A. Bull.* 26:317-320. 1932.

The Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh buys more cultural and informational than recreational books. During 1929 over 400 new fiction titles were bought, 299 in 1931 and less than 100 this year. 24 popular authors are replaced only when their books are available in reprints.

BOOKS AND READING

Southwick, Margaret. Stimulating and directing reading. *Lib. Occurrent.* 10:272-279. 1932.

A detailed account of displays and projects employed by teacher-librarians in the Gary (Ind.) public schools to stimulate interest in good literature.

CHILDREN'S READING

White House Conference on Child Health and Protection. Subcommittee on Reading. *Children's Reading; a Study of Voluntary Reading of Boys and Girls in the United States.* New York: Century, c1932. pap. 90p. 75 c. (Rpt. of Subcom. on Reading, Carl H. Milam, chairman).

Report and recommendations are followed by detailed studies of Children's Reading and the Movies; The Problems Involved in Children's Reading of Magazines and Newspapers; The Reading of Young Workers; Racial Differences in Children's Reading; Publishing and Selling Children's Books; Specialized Service to Children in Public Libraries; The Library in the School; Library Service in Institutions; and Book Service to the Rural Child. 21p. bibl.

See also LIBRARY WORK WITH CHILDREN.

COLLEGE LIBRARIES

Randall, W. M. *The College Library: a Descriptive Study of the Libraries in Four-Year Liberal Arts Colleges in the United States.* Chicago: American Lib. Assn. and Univ. of Chicago Press, 1932. cl. 165p. \$2.50.

Study made by Dr. Randall, associate professor of library science, University of Chicago, under the auspices of the Carnegie Corporation of New York and its Advisory Group on College Libraries, W. W. Bishop, chairman. Personal visits supplemented information secured from questionnaires answered by more than 200 colleges. Financial conditions, buildings, staff, size and growth of book collections, content of book collections, techniques and routine, and standards are discussed. "This is primarily a study of conditions. It is not in any sense a textbook in college library administration."

See also UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES.

COUNTERS. See DESKS AND COUNTERS.

DESKS AND COUNTERS

Thompson, Alan. A service counter for a small town or branch library. figures. *Lib. World.* 34:248-250. 1932.

Discusses the advantages of a triangular counter.

FICTION

Schofield, E. B. Light fiction in rate-supported libraries. *Lib. World.* 34:243-244, 246, 248. 1932. Approves the growing American policy of putting light fiction on a rental basis.

HADRIAN'S LIBRARY

Miller, Walter. Hadrian's library and gymnasium. illus. plan. *Art and Archaeology.* 33:89-91. 1932. HARVARD UNIVERSITY. WIDENER LIBRARY.

Hall, Theodore. A Harvard garner: the Library *Harvard Graduates' Magazine.* 40:66-83. 1931.

Special collections—Widener, Schofield, Amy Lowell (Poetry Room); Friends of the Library; staff; relations with the Corporation, etc.

Intended to index with brief annotation, or excerpts when desirable, articles in library periodicals, books on libraries and library economy and other material of interest to the profession. The subject headings follow those in Cannons' *Bibliography of Library Economy* to which this department makes a continuing supplement. Readers are requested to note and supply omissions and make suggestions as to the development of this department.

HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Reed, I. M. The high school library. Tiffin, Ohio: Heidelberg College. *Kadelpian Review.* 11:287-290. 1932.

HOSPITAL LIBRARIES

Pomeroy, Elizabeth. The librarian and the social worker in the hospital. *Hospital Social Service.* 25:365-370. 1932.

LIBRARIANSHIP

Rathbone, J. A. Creative librarianship. *LIB. JOUR.* 57:451-455. 1932. Also in *A.L.A. Bull.* 26:305-310. 1932.

A.L.A. presidential address, 1932. Describes the manifold activities of the A.L.A., takes issue with the idea that librarians should also be authors, and suggests the part that the library and librarian may take in enriching the cultural life of the community, as well as in forming its reading tastes.

LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS

Deichmanblad. Oslo, Norway: Deichmanske Bibliotek. Vol. 1, no. 1, February, 1932. pap. illus. por. 10p.

Historical notes, recent news, and lists of recent acquisitions.

LIBRARY SERVICE

Krause, L. B. Toward economic recovery. *A.L.A. Bull.* 26:312-317. 1932.

"A plea for books on economic backgrounds; . . . for truth in appraising current economic books; . . . for the study of economic problems by librarians."

LIBRARY WORK WITH CHILDREN

Givens, Spencer. Gangland's rendezvous becomes culture cove. Columbus, Mo.: Missouri State Teachers' Assn. *Sch. and Community.* 18:174-176. 1932.

LINDSAY, NICHOLAS VACHEL, 1879-1931.

Wilson, Martha. Vachel Lindsay, library patron. *Ill. Libs.* 14:2-3. 1932.

Lindsay was a constant user of the Lincoln Library, Springfield, Ill. "His poems were written out of painstaking research and full knowledge of the subject touched upon; he it gypsies, negro folk lore, Egyptian hieroglyphics or the haunts and habits of Johnny Appleseed. The Bible was his by inheritance."

MONTGOMERY, THOMAS LYNCH, 1862-1929.

Thomas Lynch Montgomery, Litt.D. 1862-1929. *por. Bull. of Bibl.* 14:141-142. 1932.

An appreciation of the former state librarian of Pennsylvania and librarian of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY. BODLEIAN LIBRARY.

Craster, H. H. F. The Bodleian and its present problems. *Lib. Assn. Record.* 3rd ser. 2:137-143. 1932.

History of the Libraries, and plans for extension of their physical quarters.

PERIODICALS

Robert, A. L., and H. H. Schaltenbrand. *The Comparative Cost of Medical Journals.* Reprinted from *Bull. of the Medical Lib. Assn.* n.s. 20:140-155. 1932. pap. [14]p.

Correlates the per-page cost of periodicals with the number of volumes per title and the subscription prices actually paid by the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, from July 1930 to June 1931. The excessive cost of German medical publications is emphasized.

Walter, F. K. *Periodicals for the Small Library.* 6th ed. Chicago: American Lib. Assn., 1932. pap. 114p.

The fifth edition was published in 1928. 220 titles are listed, ten more than previously. All inclusions are based on the votes of 205 collaborating library workers. Agricultural, business and technical, educational and library periodicals are discussed as well as those more general in nature, and chapters on binding, subscription agents and indexes are included.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES

California School Library Association, Northern
(Turn to page 579, please)

From The Library Schools

Library Schools Accredited

LIBRARY SCHOOLS at the University of Oklahoma and Kansas State Teachers College have been fully accredited by the Board of Education for Librarianship of the American Library Association, and those at the University of North Carolina, Louisiana State University and the University of Denver have been provisionally accredited. The school at the North Carolina College for Women has been re-classified as a senior undergraduate library school for the training of school librarians.

Drexel

THE MEMBERS of the Drexel Institute Library School Association who gathered at the annual conference dinner in New Orleans discussed the loss to the Association of its most distinguished member, Sarah C. N. Bogle. Much has been said concerning Miss Bogle and so well said that we were not moved to adopt resolutions; but we desire to express our sense of loss in her passing, our gratification that we have been able to claim her as one of our members, and our pride that the Drexel School was the medium through which she was given to the library profession.

Los Angeles

FROM the Los Angeles Public Library comes the announcement of the graduation of the Class of 1932, twenty-seven young women, and two young men, with Commencement program held on Thursday, May 26.

At the time of the completion of this semester, regretful announcement is made by the Los Angeles Library Board of the discontinuance of the School. This closes the career of a school which has been in existence for forty-one years and has sent 500 graduates into many different fields of library work. Positions of high rank are held by Los Angeles Library School Alumni in the Los Angeles Public Library, in city, county, school, college, special and business libraries of California and other states. Libraries of Hawaii and China and the headquarters staff of the American Library Association include graduates of this school.

Established in 1891 by Miss Tessa Kelso as a training class, it was re-organized and in-

creased in scope of courses by Miss Helen T. Kennedy, who was appointed Principal in 1911. When Miss Kennedy's work with branch libraries absorbed all of her time, Mrs. Theodora R. Brewitt conducted the school for a period of five years, building up a new curriculum in line with the standards of the best library schools in America. It was during this period, or in 1914, that it ceased to be a training class and became an organized Library School. In 1918 it was admitted to the Association of American Library Schools. In 1926 it was accredited as a junior undergraduate library school by the Board of Education for Librarianship and in 1930 it was accredited by the California State Board of Education for school library positions.

There is every reason to believe that the training for librarianship provided by this school will be severely missed as the profession absorbs those now seeking employment. The Alumni Association confidently hopes that without too great a lapse of time the school may be taken over by one of the universities of Southern California, and has placed the matter for consideration before the officials of the California Library Association and the American Library Association.

Peabody

THE LIBRARY SCHOOL of George Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville, Tennessee, announces that the undergraduate curriculum in academic year and summer sessions has been fully accredited by the Board of Education for Librarianship of the American Library Association as a senior undergraduate library school for the training of school librarians.

Books for Blind Ready

ABOUT FORTY books for the adult blind are now ready for lending from distributing libraries in all parts of the United States, and additional titles are constantly being embossed and shipped to those libraries, under the provisions of the Pratt-Smoot Bill, it is announced by Herman H. B. Meyer, director of the project Books-for-the-Blind. A printed list of these books and of the libraries distributing them may be obtained upon request from Mr. Meyer at the Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

Library Organizations

Ontario Conference

THE ONTARIO Library Association held its thirty-second Annual Conference on Easter Monday and Tuesday, March 28 and 29. Between three and four hundred librarians registered, and in spite of the fact that the President of the Association, Mr. R. E. Crouch, Librarian of London, Ontario, was called out of town before the first session opened, and that Miss E. Blanche Steele, owing to ill health was not able to continue her duties as Secretary-Treasurer, the Conference was a very successful one.

Miss Mary Gould Davis, Director of Clubs and Story Hours in the New York Public Library, spoke out of the wealth of experience that she has gained in her work in New York, ending with a story told in her inimitable manner. The speaker of the evening session was Frederick Philip Grove, the author of *A Search For America*, whose address dealt with Canadian national ideas from the literary point of view. Dr. Bernard C. McGhie, Director of Hospital Service, Toronto, addressed the Association on "Mental Health and Parent Education," leaving useful lists of books on the subject to be distributed amongst the members. Dr. Donald M. Solandt, of Toronto, who has been interested in libraries for years, though not actively employed by them, spoke on his idea of the future of libraries in Ontario. Mrs. B. Holtby, of Lambeth, told of interesting experiences she has had in building up a well-organized library from a shelf or two of books in her own home.

One of the most important features of the Association is always its round table conferences where the librarians can talk over their problems and discuss the outstanding questions of the moment. The topic for discussion in the Circulating Group was "Are We Doing Our Job?" Three papers led to some discussion. A new Round Table was formed for Trustees and those interested in administration, and proved to be a success. "Finance" and "The Place of the Trustee in Library Management" were the subjects for discussion. At the College and Reference Round Table there was a discussion on "Bibliographies and Their Place in the Library." The High School librarians spoke on cooperation between school and library, papers being read by both school librarians and public librarians. At the Round Table for work with boys and girls two papers

were read on the reading of older girls and of little children. After these papers had been discussed, the Uncle Remus puppet plays were produced by members of the Toronto staff. The Ontario Regional Group of Catalogers also held their annual meeting to coincide with the Ontario Library Association. A paper on the reference catalog was read, new officers were elected and tea was served.

A most delightful luncheon was organized by the Circulating Libraries Section, under the leadership of Jessie E. Rorke, Toronto Public Library, to which all members of the Association were invited. Dr. George H. Locke, Toronto's chief librarian, was the speaker. Sir John Adams, one of England's foremost educationalists, was also present and spoke a few words.

Another new adventure was a series of informal groups that met in the new room that Dr. Locke has opened this year in which to house the technical literature and high school reference. These groups were for those interested in circulating picture collections, pamphlets and clippings; drama; and the library school. The new simplified charging system that is being used in some of the Toronto branches was also demonstrated here.

New officers were elected as follows:

President, Rev. T. Bart Howard, B.A., The Public Library, Waterford, Ont.; First Vice-President, Mrs. Norman Lyle, B.A., The Public Library, Hamilton, Ont.; Second Vice-President, Angus Mowat, The Public Library, Windsor, Ont.; Secretary-Treasurer, Muriel Page, The Public Reference Library, Toronto.

Montana State Library Association

THE MONTANA State Library Association held its twenty-first annual meeting at the Public Library, Great Falls, Montana, on May 16 and 17. Round Table discussions were conducted on county libraries, children's literature and reading, economic problems facing the library today, and important new books.

The following officers were elected: President, Philip Keeney, librarian, University of Montana; Vice-President, Dorothea McCulloh, librarian, Great Falls High School; Secretary, Ellen Torgimson, librarian, Chouteau County Free Library, Fort Benton; Treasurer, Mrs. Mabel Miller, Helena Public Library.

New Jersey School Librarians' Association

THE SIXTY-THIRD regular meeting of the New Jersey School Librarians' Association was held at Rutgers University on Saturday, May 7, in connection with the State High School Conference. Members of the Student Councils met also at the same time. The speaker of the morning was Miss Winifred Drury, Edgbaston High School, Birmingham, England, who is an exchange teacher at the Roosevelt Junior High School, Westfield. Miss Drury's topic was "Libraries and Education in England." In a very delightful and informal way, she told about the educational system in England as compared to ours. She, however, let us draw our own comparisons as she showed us some of the misconceptions which arise from statements made by Americans and English. Miss A. H. Rothe, a representative from the H. W. Wilson Company, New York City, spoke to us concerning the Vertical File Service, which the company is offering to libraries. The Student Councils group had the pleasure of hearing Miss Sarah Askew, Librarian of the N. J. State Library Commission, and Miss Drury, who spoke to them about High Schools in England. Several of the librarians met for a short round table in the afternoon.

Columbia Library Association

THE FIRST need of the prison library is personnel and funds, according to Mr. Austin H. McCormick, Assistant Director, U. S. Bureau of Prisons, the principal speaker before the morning session of the annual meeting of the Columbia Library Association, in Agriculture Hall, of the University of Maryland, Saturday morning, May 21, 1932.

Dr. George F. Bowerman, librarian of the Public Library, Washington, D. C., president of the Columbia Library Association, presided at all sessions, and introduced the speakers. Dr. Raymond A. Pearson, president of the University of Maryland, welcomed the delegates as custodians of the world's greatest and best wealth—the world's literature. He also sketched the history of the University of Maryland and invited inspection of the new building on the campus.

A visit to the Northeastern Branch of the Public Library, Washington, D. C., and to the Folger Shakespeare Library preceded an address on the founding of the Folger Library

and the building of the collection of Shakespeareana by the late Henry C. Folger, by Mr. William Adams Slade, director of the Folger Shakespeare Library, given in the Coolidge Auditorium of the Library of Congress. Mr. Frederick W. Ashley, chief assistant librarian of the Library of Congress, gave an entertaining talk on "Notes on the Current Library of Congress Exhibitions," full of anecdotal matter of great interest.

Dr. Dumas Malone, editor of the *Dictionary of American Biography*, addressed the dinner meeting in Barker Hall of the Y. W. C. A. Both Dr. George E. Bowerman and Dr. Malone, whose subject was "The Making of the Dictionary of American Biography," paid high tribute to the first editor of the dictionary, the late Dr. Allen Johnson.

At the brief business meeting Dr. Bowerman referred a proposal for the change of the name of the Association now under consideration to the incoming executive board. The following officers were elected: President, Dr. John C. French, Johns Hopkins University; Vice-President, representing the District of Columbia Library Association, Mr. Ralph L. Thompson, librarian of the Mt. Pleasant Branch of the Public Library, Washington, D. C.; Vice-President, representing the Maryland Library Association, Miss Miriam R. Apple, librarian of Hood College; Secretary, Mrs. Raymond P. Hawes, readers' assistant, Enoch Pratt Free Library; Treasurer, Miss Mabel Colcord, librarian, Bureau of Entomology, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Current Library Literature

(Concluded from page 576)

Section. Study of inexpensive series suitable for school libraries. Compiled for the Study Committee . . . [Bulletin]. 4:[7-14]. 1932.

An annotated list. Copies obtainable from the San José State Teachers College Library "for a small charge." Henderson, F. D. School-community library project. 1201 16th st., Washington, D. C. *Bull. of the Dept. of Elementary Sch. Principals*. 11:329-331. 1932.

TRAINING FOR LIBRARIANSHIP

Towne, J. E. The location and development of accredited library training agencies in the South. *Peabody Jour. of Ed.* 9:163-167. 1932.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

MacCracken, J. H., ed. *American Universities and Colleges*. 2nd ed. rev. and enl. Baltimore: Williams, 1932. cl. 1066p. \$4.

General discussion of the college and university library, p. 14-15. Size and special collections of all libraries included in body of text.

See also COLLEGE LIBRARIES; HARVARD UNIVERSITY; OXFORD UNIVERSITY; YALE UNIVERSITY.

YALE UNIVERSITY. STERLING MEMORIAL LIBRARY.

A modernized university library. illus. *Sci. Amer.* 87:328-329. 1931.

Illustrations and text emphasize the modern mechanical equipment of the new library.

Children's Librarians' Notebook

THE LITTLE HOUSE IN THE BIG WOODS. By Laura Ingalls Wilder. *Harper*. \$2.

The Wisconsin woods of the 1870's is the setting for *The Little House in the Big Woods*. A pioneer farm in the American wilderness, which produced crops, food, domestic and wild animals and plenty of adventure, offered Laura Ingalls Wilder material for a colorful autobiographical story told in the third person. Mrs. Wilder is the mother of Rose Wilder Lane, novelist. To the children in *The Little House in the Big Woods*, Christmas meant doubling up for company, homemade toys, and neighborly festivities. "Sugaring down" was an event and the self-sufficiency of each home is not the least value of a book to which the artist, Helen Sewell, has added illustrations that convey the story's atmosphere. It has reading interest for children from eight to twelve years of age, history interest of value as supplementary reading, and a county appeal for the Appalachian range.—N. C.

THE PLAY'S THE THING. By A. C. D. Riley. *Winston*. \$1.

It is hard to believe that the author of the well-known collection of plays, *Ten Minutes by the Clock* has also written these five one-act comedies. The new volume is very much inferior to Mrs. Riley's former book, both in subject matter and manner of presentation. The humor in these new plays often borders on crudity and the situations in some instances are far more adult than juvenile in tone. While it is true that the settings are simple and easy to reproduce, the costumes for the animal characters frequently introduced would present difficulties. A book not necessary for library purchase, since there is so much better play material to be had.—C. N.

BEETHOVEN, MASTER MUSICIAN. By Madeleine Goss. *Doubleday*. \$2.50.

Brief glimpses of the character of Beethoven and incidents in his life are woven into this short biography in such a way as to give the reader an appreciative insight into the life of a genius, and inspires an almost affectionate understanding of this one. The many artists who are introduced through their association with Beethoven form a most appropriate background. A biography for older boys and girls but one that can be read to and enjoyed by a child of any age who has musical taste or talent. The illustrations are lovely.—L. H.

HEROES OF CIVILIZATION. By Joseph Cottler. *Little*. \$3.

The fields of exploration, invention, biology, medicine and pure science are tersely covered in this volume which deals with thirty-odd fighters of "various battlefields and causes." Here are to be found sketches of well-known persons together with little known "heroes." Each biography, while brief, gives enough of the man's accomplishments to place him in his world of fellow-men and enough of his personal characteristics to make him seem more than a mere paper hero. A table of contents and a comprehensive index add to the book's value for reference purposes.—C. N.

STUFFED PARROT. By Parker Fillmore. *Harcourt, Brace*. \$2.

What happens when a little girl named Polly and her parrot, Paquita, go to visit Polly's aunt. A modern story for little girls with a slightly different plot and considerable atmosphere. Some of the situations seem rather forced, however, and the children at times act with more sagacity than their ages warrant.—C. N.

YOUNG FU OF THE UPPER YANGTZE. By Elizabeth Foreman Lewis. (Illus. by Kirk Wiese.) *Winston*. \$2.50.

A splendid story of modern China which gives a clear picture of an artisan's life in a large city of the Middle Kingdom. Each chapter relates some important episode in the development of the character of Young Fu who is apprenticed to Tang, the coppersmith; and each episode reveals many interesting Chinese customs, showing also the political and social changes the country is undergoing. The book is well-written, and absorbing even though there is no main plot, and is filled with delightful bits of Chinese philosophy and humor. An appendix gives pronunciations and explanations of various customs. For sixth to eighth grades.—H. N.

NATALIE AND THE BREWSTERS. By Emily Hopkins Drake. *Lothrop*. \$1.50.

A mystery story for girls which is marred by the writing. Little five-year old Natalie is found on the Brewster door-step in the midst of a bad storm and straightway conquers the hearts of all with whom she comes into contact. Who she is and how she is found and how the four Brewster children refuse to give her up make the story. Too full of sentimental phrases and the general atmosphere of self-righteousness.—H. N.

AT THE INN OF THE GUARDIAN ANGEL. By Sophie Comtesse de Ségur. (Retold from the French by Amena Pendleton.) Houghton. \$2.

Two small boys and a Saint Bernard dog are rescued one cold night by a soldier and taken to Madame Blidot and her sister Elfy, who keep the Inn. A Russian general comes there—a most interesting, unique, explosive character who keeps things lively along with Torchonnet and Moutier. He is a regular fairy godmother helping the fortunes of all. There is a fine humor throughout perhaps above most children. The drawings by Margaret Freeman are worthy of the spirit of the text.—A. M. W.

DANGER ZONE. By Raoul Whitfield. Knopf. \$2.

This is a swift-moving conversational account of how three young lieutenant aviators were transported from an American flying field to the war front in France. The description of the transport's passage through the danger zone is quite vivid and altogether the book is very readable, yet the recounting of such an experience, however exciting and realistically done, does not seem valuable enough to warrant its purchase now. It is a personal narrative without plot or other story requisites. Although the tragedies of war are not ignored, one feels sure that the youth reading it will see only the excitement and bravery connected with war.—H. N.

SEARCHING FOR PIRATE TREASURE. By Malcolm Campbell. Stokes. \$2.

This is a story of the treasures believed to be buried on an uninhabited island in the Southern Pacific. The author came in possession of a clue to one of these hiding places and he tells how he, with five companions, made a hasty, but unfruitful search. Captain Campbell has every reason to believe the treasures are waiting to be found and he is planning to return to Cocos Island better equipped and continue his search. The subject matter warrants a much better telling. The reader feels there are too many irrelevant things brought in that really make for padding rather than for interest.—M. W.

PETER'S VOYAGE. By Elsa Beskow. Knopf. \$2.

These rather insipid verses and pictures, far inferior to those in Elsa Beskow's charming Swedish picture-story books, tell of the adventures of a little boy and his teddy bear when they go to Zulu land and China in a small sail-boat.—C. N.

POOR SHAYDULLAH. By Boris Artzybasheff. Macmillan. \$1.50.

An artist author has written and illustrated the story of a beggar, who waited patiently for Allah to regard him. Wise men advised him to go in quest of Allah. He goes and rests first with a lion who asks him to inquire of Allah why he knows naught of health and happiness. Then he rests under a banana tree and the tree would have him ask of Allah why it bore no fruit; and the fish that gives him transportation would have him ask of Allah why his pain was so unbearable. To Allah he comes, only to find that all he desires is at home. The journey homeward is begun, and to each he delivers Allah's message, "All things living and all things not living have their purpose and their worth"; but the lion opened his mouth and swallowed Shaydullah, and neither heaven nor earth wept, so the fable goes, for *Poor Shaydullah* so resembles a fable it might well be classed as one. This book would appeal to boys and girls from ten to fourteen years of age. —N. R. C.

ZEKE. By Mary White Ovington. (Illus. by Natalie H. Davis.) Harcourt. \$2.

This story of a young negro's first year at Tolliver (Tuskegee) Institute should be read by all interested in the education and development of the colored race. The book is more than just a splendid picture of a great school's organization and its various activities and more than the sympathetic account of the experiences of a sensitive youngster who gradually learns to develop his own individuality in an entirely new environment; it shows a great understanding of the colored race, a knowledge of its modern youth, and a faith in its future. It is a character story, very human in quality. There has been a demand for books about colored children but some librarians may object to putting into adolescent hands a book that shows so frankly the sophisticated knowledge of a group of youths, or that repeats such phrases as "My baby" or "Your sweetie."—H. N.

DICK AND TOM. By Mark Van Doren. Macmillan. \$2.

A poet and a father reminisces for his young sons regarding his own early life on a mid-western farm. The stories about two little boys and their ponies are simple, straightforward, and are told with a genuineness and a style that is surprising in a book so slight. Children from kindergarten age through the third grade—even those to whom horses are more or less of a novelty—should be interested in the two ponies, Dick and Tom, and their young masters.—C. N.

The Open Round Table

Trade and Library Discounts

BOTH Mr. Pearce in the *A. L. A. Bulletin* and Mr. Holt in *THE LIBRARY JOURNAL* have succeeded in convincing me that libraries should begin to scrutinize book discounts more closely, especially in a year of budget decreases. In my experience I have constantly contended with three sets of discounts, library, educational and Trade, which in relation to each other and to the things they stand for seem to be highly inequitable.

At the present time, any little shop which chooses to call itself a book store, even though its credit is shaky and its volume of business is small is entitled to a trade discount of about 40 per cent. Libraries, regardless of the volume of their purchases, can get from publishers and booksellers a discount that ranges from 12 to 25 per cent, and from jobbers, a discount of from 20 to 26 per cent and freight transportation paid. Individual teachers, with annual purchases that do not average over fifty dollars, receive educational discounts, ranging from 20 to 25 per cent. It is evident, therefore, that volume of business affects very little the amount of discount granted.

The conditions being what they are, one of Mr. Pearce's suggestions, at least, seems to be common business sense. Why should not the library seek a Trade discount, either through its own or through a created book store? In a year of decreased budgets the extra discount will buy more books, and help libraries to more nearly realize the book selection principle, "The best book for the greatest number at the least cost." On business and book selection principles Trade discounts should be sought.

If ethical objections are considered, I must insist that along with the alleged injury to the Trade, consideration be given to the actual harm to the library of the present inequitable system of discounts. This is no defense of the jobber (although with Mr. Duffus, I feel the wholesaler is probably the soundest business member of the Trade), but it is an ethical objection to the publisher's attempt to divert library business from the jobber to the local bookseller. Much as I appreciate the cultural value of a bookstore to a community, there is no denying the fact that the library dertakes to encourage a local enterprise, must sacrifice price and service when it un-

Under the circumstances most libraries continue to buy from the jobber where they can get better discounts and a service that is based on years of contact with library methods.

Further, there is the exasperating and often vicious practice of granting educational discounts to individuals. Every college library has at some time or other undergone a life-and-death struggle for control of the book budget. One of the convincing arguments used with the faculty for centralization of book buying has always been the advantage in prices gained through lumping orders. Yet, the other day, a publisher filled a library order at 15 per cent discount and a faculty member's at 20 per cent. At best, the library can only equal the professor's personal discount, notwithstanding the fact that the former may purchase exactly a thousand times as many books as the latter in the course of a school year.

It is about time libraries protested against the discount that bears their name. Taken together, libraries supply no small portion of the book business to the Trade and are entitled to a more equitable discount. If a difference must exist between Trade and library discounts, then a similar distinction should be made between what the library and the individual professor can get off the list price. Until this adjustment is made libraries will seek for better prices through jobbers, remainders, college book stores and perhaps even book reviewer's copies. There is no reason why business principles should apply to publisher, jobber and bookseller, and only ethical principles to library enterprises.

—LOUIS SHORES.

What About 1933 Applicants?

IN A SHORT TIME applicants for the class of 1933 will be clamoring for admittance to our library schools. Many will come with the knowledge that numbers of librarians have no work. Some of these can be frightened away by a calm reiteration of present conditions in librarydom. Others will not be deterred from their desires so easily, and a few will show, even in a brief interview, the possession of certain qualities librarians should be proud to own. To this limited number are the committees who pass on credentials going to be frank in their exposition of library practices

or are they going to omit or gloss over certain facts that might prevent the ambitious and imaginative from entering our profession?

Are the intelligent applicants going to hear once again the old adage "there is always room at the top" which began losing ground when our frontiers disappeared and now in 1932 contains a modicum of truth if applied to the professions? Are they to hear that library work affords a greater variety of employment without being told that library routine is as monotonous if not more so than routine in other walks of life? Are they to be told that routine and busy work mean very different things in various libraries, the former being common to all institutions while the latter may easily be anathema to any staff? Are they to hear that in large institutions which are forced by exigencies and peculiarities of size to divide up their work among four or more major departments, there is practically no opportunity for young librarians to display initiative and imagination in their work? Are they to be told that librarianship is one of the most conservative of professions, partly due to the fact that few librarians are able to free themselves from the chain of routine often forged in library schools?

On the other hand, are they to learn that in this experimental age the profession needs librarians who are willing to try new methods and to establish untried procedure? Are they to hear that the day of the librarians who believe in the sanctity of precedent and uphold the letter at the expense of the spirit of the rules of the library is definitely over? Finally, are they to be told that the life of a library depends upon the staff and not upon the clientele and that a competent librarian, particularly in this difficult period, looks more often and more intently at the welfare of his staff than at the book lists of the library's customers?

PHILIP O. KEENEY,
Librarian, Montana State University.

A Warning To Librarians

ERIC E. VERRILL, son of A. H. Verrill, the author, is cashing bad checks on the strength of his father's reputation. We understand that he has been disowned by his family and that he has indulged in such practices for many years.

I presume the book trade and librarians should be warned against him. The enclosed

letters will give data for this.

—CARL VITZ.

My dear Mr. Vitz:

We are sorry to learn from your letter of May 18 that Eric Verrill has been operating in Toledo.

This man, while a son of A. H. Verrill, the author, was disowned by him years ago on account of his dishonesty.

We have heard at different times, for the last several years of his activities in cashing checks, based on his father's reputation. Notice has accordingly been sent to the *Publishers' Weekly*, with the request that they publish a warning to the book trade against this young man, and that is all we can possibly do.

Mr. Verrill, Sr., is now in South America, but on his return we will refer your letter to him; but as it is one of many in the same tenor, we doubt very much that he can do anything about it.

—H. APPLETON & Co.

Dear Sir:

I am just in receipt of your letter of April 15th. I am deeply grieved to learn that you were victimized by Eric E. Verrill, but I am not greatly surprised as I have had similar complaints from other sources.

He has caused his mother and myself untold grief and worry, as well as large sums of money, by his dishonest methods, and we long ago washed our hands of him as hopeless.

It pains me greatly to be compelled to write in this manner and to admit that he is trading on his name and family in victimizing people and institutions; but it has come to the point where I can see no other course, for even if by so doing it would help matters, I cannot afford to make good his bad checks or debts, especially as he is nearly forty years of age and responsible for his own actions.

Again expressing my deepest regrets that this should have occurred.

—(Signed) ALPHEUS H. VERRILL.

Resolutions Adopted

LIBRARY RESOLUTION adopted by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, May 20, 1932, at Minneapolis: "We believe that the essential services of existing libraries must be safeguarded in this period when people are turning to books as never before; and that library opportunity must be extended to rural people through the establishment of county libraries."

LIBRARY RESOLUTION adopted by the Illinois Congress of Parents and Teachers, April 19, 1932: "We believe that all citizens of the state are equally entitled to the aid and comfort of books, and therefore endorse the county library for rural and small town communities. We urge that existing libraries shall be given the full financial support allowed by the law."

In The Library World

College Library Planning Survey

A "TRAFFIC SURVEY" of the users of the Iowa State College Library is to be conducted as a part of a comprehensive study of reading which is being carried on by a committee of the faculty. At typical periods, library patrons will be asked to answer a questionnaire on various phases of their use of the library. Influences of teachers and others on the students' reading will be investigated. The study is designed to show what students do not obtain needed material in the library.

Gleanings from Annual Reports

John Crerar Library

"IT BECAME necessary to establish a separate service to the reference room for periodicals, this office being at times the most exposed. The variety of questions showed, as usually, to what extent libraries have grown into public information bureaus in the estimate of the public. The Librarian and his assistant have shared in this service, probably more than before; looking back over the year's events it seems that an ever increasing percentage of patrons insist on interviews with the Librarian. Many come with personal problems of study, many for vocational guidance, others with manuscripts to be looked at or read and possible publishers suggested—and an endless procession of persons seeking information about old books and good markets for them. For twenty-seven years I have been consulted on problems of book values and estimates of heirlooms, but in no single case was a genuine treasure—much less an authentic *Ulster County Gazette*—presented for inspection. In spite of many disappointments of this kind, there still is much comfort in a direct and friendly word passing between a librarian and the users of a library; it helps indicate the tone and spirit of official relations, and no library will succeed without some such form of personal contact evident in its service."

New York Public Library

"WITH THE newspaper files of the wood-pulp period (1870 onwards) disintegrating rapidly, the problem of restricting the consultation of these fragile pages to research

workers, who will put them to legitimate use, presents itself. But what is legitimate use? Compiling material on famous sporting events for radio broadcasting, quotations on Russian rubles over a period of years, material for a lengthy article on the Mooney-Billings case, searching for advertisements for missing heirs? These are typical subjects of research."

Deborah Cook Sayles Public Library

"AN IMPROVEMENT introduced this year is the lacquering of the books to protect them from soiling and wetting. The lacquer is sprayed onto the books with an electric machine, greatly improving the appearance and wearing qualities of the book. All juvenile books and eventually all books will be sprayed."

Seattle Public Library

"THE ORDER DEPARTMENT also distributes to schools and small libraries throughout the Northwest the books discarded by the Seattle Public Library as unfit for further use. These humble gifts often bring such extravagant acknowledgments as the following:

"It was you who have made it possible for us to obtain this friend of humanity, the books. Therefore to you and to all the others who made it possible for us to gain our treasures I wish to express our gratitude."

Toronto Public Library

"A SCHEME has been tried in an experimental form during the year of having three specially selected groups of books on 'Child Problems,' and of placing them at a number of Branch Libraries in sequence, in order temporarily to supplement the book-stock of the particular branch in this subject. The books were chosen after special investigation and consultation with advisory bodies, and an annotated reading list was provided for distribution at the Branches where the books were displayed. The Branch Libraries made special posters and passed these cooperatively from one Branch to another. It is hoped that the scheme may be extended to other groups of specialized books during the coming year."

New Buildings

A NEW library building was started on the campus of Georgia State College, Milledgeville, Georgia, during the week of April 21. It will be a two-story rectangular type building with a rear wing for the stacks and offices.

Volunteers to Operate Library

ACCORDING To the *Oregonian* for May 22 the Kelso, Washington, Public Library will be open only two days a week during the months of June, July and August and the work will be carried on by volunteers. This decision was made by the library board who felt that during those months there is less demand for library books than during the school year and that funds should be conserved for operation during the fall and winter. Mrs. Edith Elwell, who was librarian for several years and who is a member of the library board, will have charge of the library during this period and will be assisted by volunteers.

A New County Library Law

COUNTY LIBRARIES are advocated by all experts in library administration and rural betterment because of increased economy and efficiency. Many small villages and most rural districts are too small to finance library service. The larger area offered by a county permits a low-cost efficient service to all the county or to the parts thereof without local libraries. Service to rural schools is a most important part of the plan.

The new law which was passed at the recent session of the New York Legislature is intended to correct certain provisions in the old law that were generally unsatisfactory.

Under the new law:

1. The county library board can locate headquarters at the county seat or at any other centrally located place.
2. The boards of supervisors may appropriate any sum not to exceed one mill on the dollar on the true valuation of the taxable property of the county. Under the old law they were obliged to appropriate at least one third of a mill.
3. The unworkable provisions for exemption of certain property from the county library tax are stricken out. The county library will return to any community services far in excess of the cost to the community.

Because of conditions this year which made the Legislature very averse to new legislation which called for appropriations of money, the new law does not provide for state aid as the bills sponsored in 1930 and 1931 did. The State, however, is ready to assist in many ways any county interested in establishing a library, including the liberal loan of books, the aid of state library organizers, a survey of the county to aid in planning branches, book stations, book-wagon routes and stops, and free incorporation of the library under state laws.

—*New York Libraries*

Special Libraries News Notes

BUSINESS RESEARCH: Its Nature and Objectives by T. Bruce Robb has been published by the Extension Division of the University of Nebraska as Nebraska Studies in Business No. 28. In the chapter, Examples of Business Research, Operating Expenses of Retail Establishments, Investment Banking and Raw Materials are among the subjects discussed. The paragraph given in the section on Business Research and Business Education contains some sentences of special interest to those on our own library school faculties. The Extension Division of the University of Nebraska have also issued four bibliographies on: What to Read on Banking; What to Read on Retailing; What to Read on Insurance; What to Read on Business.

REATHA HEEDEN, librarian, Retail Credit Company, Atlanta, Georgia, contributes an article to each issue of *Inspection News*, which is published monthly in the interest of the employees and inspectors of the Retail Credit Company and distributed throughout their various branch offices. The May issue contains an article by Miss Heeden, entitled "Magazine Reading."

LIBRARIANS who attended the American Library Association meeting may be interested in an illustrated article called "New Orleans—Banks and Cities" by Herbert Manchester, which appeared in the *American Bankers Association Journal* for May, pages 690-691, 713.

A NEW EDITION of the *Index to Economic Reports* published by the Policyholders Service Bureau of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company is now available. The Reports are classified according to major subjects, as Accounting and finance, Advertising, selling and merchandising, Industrial health, Office management, etc., then as to type of business and industry, followed by a list of interest to business generally.

THE REPORT of the hearings before the U. S. Senate Committee on Manufactures, of which Senator LaFollette is chairman, on the "Establishment of a National Economic Council" is available in a document of 777 pages. At these hearings a number of outstanding business men and economists gave their opinions of the causes and general trends of the present depression and of the advisability of general economic planning.

Some Recent French Books

THE FRENCH BOOK REVIEW Committee was organized in 1926 as a subcommittee of the Committee on Inter-Racial Service of the Massachusetts Library Club for the purpose of selecting books that could be recommended for library purchase from the current output of French literature with the needs of public libraries especially in mind. Books of a readable, interesting type are sought, with due care for the elimination of those either poorly written, or of a distinctly undesirable influence. Books for reviewing are supplied through the courtesy of the W. B. Dumas & Co., 120 Tremont St., Boston, to members of the Committee who meet together once a month, give reviews of the books read, and make recommendations. If there is a decided disagreement in the case of any book, a second reader reviews it before a decision is made. Lists of the books recommended have been issued and distributed several times yearly to Massachusetts libraries by the Massachusetts Division of Public Libraries.

The Committee for 1931-32 is as follows: Harland A. Carpenter, Chairman, Librarian, Brockton, Mass., Public Library; Dwight I. Chapman, Ph.D., Ass't. Prof. of Romance Languages, Boston University; David M. Dougherty, A.M., Ass't. Prof. of Romance Languages, Clark University; Walter B. Dumas, W. B. Dumas & Co., Boston; Edna Phillips, Library Supervisor, Work with Foreigners, Mass. Division of Public Libraries.

The following list was compiled by the Committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Leo R. Etzkorn. Starred novels and most of the non-fiction will appeal only to cultured readers whose interests are more than local.

Non-Fiction

Dandieu, Armand. *Marcel Proust*. Firmin-Didot.

To those who are familiar with Proust's work, this book may give a new insight into his meaning. Others who know him only through reviews and criticisms may be given a desire to try to discover in his writings the foundation for this study of an unusual mind.

Dion, Rosaire. *Les Oasis*. Desclée.

A collection of sonnets, rhythmical and colorful, minarets of the desert, treating of love, sorrow, idealism, beauty; by a young French-Canadian poet of promise.

Duhamel, Georges. *Géographie Cordiale de L'Europe*. Mercure.

A description of Holland, Greece and Finland. Also an introduction devoted to a survey of the author's *Scènes de la Vie Future*, which was adversely criticised in Europe and America. Author claims he did not intend to offend America.

Fabre-Luce, Alfred. *A Quoi Rêve le Monde*. Grasset.

A penetrating but rather desultory treatment of present day America, China, Japan and the Island of Bali. Particularly interesting are the impressionistic and original discussions of America after the Wall Street crash.

Franc-Nohain. *L'Art de Vivre*. Spes.

Ethical essays touching on all phases of life. A leisurely book, to be read at odd moments. Highly extolled by French reviewers. One calls it a "phantasy winged and witty."

Franc-Nohain. *La Cité Heureuse*. Spes.

A thoughtful review of present day civilization, in which the author points out defects and shortcomings, comparing the situation with his dream city, "the city of happiness." Quite worthwhile.

La Retelle, Jacques de. *Le Demi-Dieu*. Grasset.

A tour of Greece, through the principal cities from Corinth to Athens and Sparta, then back to France. Interesting and authoritative.

Lanson, G. et Tuffrau, P. *Manuel Illustré d'Histoire de la Littérature Française*. Hachette.

A popular history of French literature for the student or for reference work in a library. A complete survey of the field, treating the earlier literature more fully. Very few living authors are mentioned.

Londres, Albert. *Pêcheurs de Perles*. Michel.

A journey to Egypt and Persia to study pearl diving. The author describes vividly the hardships and sufferings of the pearl divers who rarely reach an age of 38 or 40 years. Light, entertaining reading.

Maurois, André. *Tourgueniev*. Grasset.

A thoughtful and authoritative account of the life and works of the great Russian revolutionary. Interesting because it shows the more human side of Tourgueniev. Maurois proves once more that he can handle a hard task with mastery.

Morand, Paul. *New York*. Flammarion.

A searching analysis of New York City from every angle—its buildings, its people, its food, its life. Morand finds much to make him smile in this great city with its conglomeration of people with their various occupations and tastes.

Morand, Paul. *Papiers d'Identité*. Grasset.

A "self-portrait" of Morand, including chronicles, essays, a short play, scenarios, literary notes on St. John, André Gide, Sinclair Lewis, William B. Seabrook, Carl Van Vechten, and others. Well written, in a flowing style.

Pagnol, Marcel. *Topaze*. Fasquelle.

A play, the principal characters of which are Castel-Binac, engaged in fraudulent business deals, and his agent, Professor Topaze. The latter turns the tables on his employer and ruins him financially.

Riou, Gaston. *Journal d'un Simple Soldat*. Valois.

A vivid picture of the horrors of war and, in particular, of the oppressive monotony of the existence of prisoners. The author describes, from notes written at the time, the misery, squalor, and the pangs of hunger experienced by himself and his fellows while prisoners of war in Germany. A plea for world peace. His attitude toward the Germans is most generous.

Sieburg, Friedrich. *Dieu, Est-il Français?* Grasset.

The theme of this work is France-Germany, and the European débâcle. A generous treatment of a difficult subject, devoid of bitterness, striving to bring about harmony between two great nations. Highly recommended.

Turquan, Joseph. *Madame Récamier*. Tallandier.

A new edition of this author's life of the celebrated and beautiful Madame Récamier. As the author points out, the history of Mme. Récamier is really a history of all the distinguished people of her time, since all were attracted to her salon. Beautifully illustrated.

Fiction

Armandy, André. *La Nuit sans Astres*. Baranco, Ltd. Tallandier.

The sequel to *Silverbell*, noted below. Further adventures of the miners. Part of the scene laid in France.

Armandy, André. *Silverbell*. Tallandier.

An adventurous tale of the working of a silver mine in lower California. There are many plots and counterplots and strange happenings throughout. Would be interesting to men, especially.

Bedel, Maurice. *Philippine*. N.R.F.

Fiction with emphasis on political satire. The story has for its object the satirizing of the admirers of dictatorships, however efficient they may be. Especially directed toward Mussolini and Italy. There is a love story which serves as a connecting thread.

Benoit, Pierre. *Le Déjeuner de Sousceyrac*. Michel.

A simple story of love and business in southwestern France.

* Bloch, J. R. . . . *Et Compagnie*. Gallimard.

The struggles of an aggressive Jewish family to overcome their environment, to enrich themselves, and to succeed through sheer effort of will and astuteness. Primarily a sociological study—the Jew pitted against a declining, effete, aristocratic tradition. Vivid portrayal, not lacking in psychological analysis.

Bourget, Paul. *La Reçhute*. Plon.

The story of the infatuation of a sentimental young married woman for a man of the same romantic type. Eighteen years later, her daughter becomes engaged to the son of this man. A psychological study, well presented.

Cassou, Jean. *Comme une Grande Image*. Emile-Paul.

A psychological novel of a man who gives up his studies for the priesthood because he feels himself unfitted. He marries, becomes a teacher for a time, and later becomes a protestant missionary to Africa. His whole existence is emotionally at odds, though his wife, who has the stronger character, does much to preserve his sanity.

Daniel-Rops. *Deux Hommes en Moi*. Plon.

Four short stories grouped to show the author's theory that every man has two or more personalities that are distinct and often may be in conflict.

Frapie, Leon. *Les Contes de Paris*. Bausinière.

Thirty-two rather amusing short stories about Parisian families from the lowest to the highest

class in education, wealth or poverty. Several episodes are about children. Much French slang. Leblanc, Maurice. *Le Prince de Jericho*. Lafitte.

A detective story which furnishes many adventurous episodes designed to hold the attention of the reader. Well done.

* Maurois, André. *Le Peseur d'Âmes*. Gallimard.

Maurois propounds a theory of a Dr. Howard James, of London, who claims that he has isolated a vital fluid or energy, a fluorescence emanating from the body after death, which matter he weighs and holds captive under a small globe, this matter being the personality or soul of the individual. Through fusion of two personalities after death, two persons become as one. A metaphysical and imaginative tale, not for the impressionable or unformed.

Normand, Suzanne. *L'Exigeant*. Tambourin.

The exacting man expects too much from his first wife, because of lack of true love. In a second attempt, based on real love, the man is transformed, his outlook on life changes, and both man and wife are extremely happy. A plea for real and genuine love between married persons.

Perochon, Ernest. *Marie-Rose Méchain*. Plon.

The life story of Marie-Rose, a bourgeois girl in a provincial French town, of which her father is mayor. Many family cares during war time, and a secret love which is never satisfied, form the burden of the story. The story is well-written, delicate and exceedingly real.

Thérive, André. *Noir et Or*. Grasset.

The "Black" and "Gold" are the two sides of the World War. A frank picture of hardships and honor in war, told in a perfectly matter-of-fact way, without bitter condemnation and without over-portrayal. Some rather good character portraits are drawn.

Voisins, Gilbert de. *Les Grandes Voilières*. Grasset.

An inspiring story of four spirits which soar high and long, four poetic and musical geniuses, living and working in complete harmony. The tone of the book is elevated and many passages show a fine understanding of music.

Michigan State Not Agricultural College

By Act of the Michigan State Legislature, Michigan Agricultural College became Michigan State College as far back as 1925. The sub-title is now no more frequently used than is the sub-title at Iowa State College. Mr. Jackson E. Towne, who has recently been appointed librarian at Michigan State College says, "that we are not primarily an agricultural college is strikingly illustrated by the fact that we had only 394 students in our division of agriculture on March 1, 1932, while we had 1160 students in the division of liberal arts, 578 in engineering, and 474 in home economics." In the development of the library service at Michigan State, Mr. Towne hopes to keep pace with all of the best liberal arts college practice throughout the country.

Among Librarians

Necrology

MRS. LUCY CULLEN, who for many years was in the Card Section of the Library of Congress, was killed in an automobile accident on May fifth.

MARY LEMIST TITCOMB, librarian of the Washington County Free Library, Hagerstown, Maryland, since 1901, died on June 5.

Appointments

MARION E. BROWN, Pittsburgh '27, received the appointment on May 2, 1932, as an assistant in the Circulating Department of one of the Branches of the Public Library of the District of Columbia.

VIRGINIA GARLAND, Pittsburgh '26, resigned in April from the Homewood Branch, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, to accept the position of librarian of the Philadelphia Company, succeeding Mrs. Jean Wilson Gilson.

RUDOLPH GJELSNESS, chief of the Preparation Division, New York Public Library, N. Y., has accepted the position of librarian and professor of Library Science at the University of Arizona, beginning Sept. 1. Mr. Gjelsness will leave at the end of June to teach in the summer session of the Department of Library Science at the University of Michigan.

LEONA KIDWELL has been elected librarian of Merrill Public Library, Klamath Falls, Oregon, to fill the place vacated by Mrs. A. L. Book, who resigned.

LUCY LEWIS, librarian of the Oregon State Agricultural College, has been named Director of Libraries by the State Board of Higher Education in Oregon. This position carries with it responsibility for the unification of library resources in the State University, State Agricultural College, and the three State Normal Schools. It is thought that such unification will result not only in greater economy but in greater resources for each institution.

MRS. MARJORIE F. LEIGHTON, Columbia '31, left the New York Public Library on Nov. 1, 1931, to take a position in the library of the Girls' Commercial High School, New York City.

ESTHER LEVINE, Simmons '30, has joined the staff of the Physics-Chemistry-Mathematics Library at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, as a general assistant.

MARGARET MCCAIN, Michigan '29, has resigned from her position as medical librarian of the University of Pittsburgh to become assistant librarian at the Western Illinois State Teachers College Library, Macomb, Ill.

GENEVIEVE MCCROHAN, Simmons '29, has been appointed a cataloger at the Widener Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

LETITIA MCQUILLAN, Michigan '29, formerly librarian of the High School, University of Wisconsin, is now librarian of the Kingswood School, Cranbrook Foundation, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

CARYL MILLER, Simmons '24, has been appointed library assistant at the New Utrecht High School, Brooklyn, New York. Miss Miller was formerly with the Standard Statistics Company Library in New York.

MARVIN MILLER, Columbia '29, who has been with the Reference Department of the New York Public Library since graduation from the school, has resigned to become librarian of the University of New Hampshire. He began his work March 1.

Mlle. DENISE D. MONTEL, Simmons '24, has recently been appointed Chef du service bibliographique, Messageries Hachette, Paris, France.

LEONA CARBECK NORMAN, Michigan '30, formerly librarian of the Michigan Committee on Public Utility Information, Ann Arbor, is now assistant in the Catalog Department at the University of Michigan Library, Ann Arbor.

RUTH O'MALLEY, Albany '24, has a position as reference librarian in the State Library Commission, Jefferson City, Missouri.

ELLEN OVERLOCK, Michigan '28, has resigned as assistant librarian of the Winthrop College, Rock Hill, S. C., to become reference librarian at the Central Library of the Washington, D. C. Public Library.

MRS. CATHARINE J. PIERCE, Columbia '31, has been appointed reference librarian in the Swarthmore College Library, Pa., beginning in September 1932.

FAITH SMITH, Pittsburgh '08, has been appointed department librarian of the Sociology Department of the Los Angeles, Calif., Public Library, beginning July 1.

JEAN K. TAYLOR, Albany '25, was appointed superintendent of the Science and Technology Division of the Queens Borough Public Library, and was transferred to her new work there in December, 1931.

Opportunities For Librarians

Library organizing, cataloging, literary or genealogical research, college and library school trained and experienced worker. F10.

Library school graduate, experience, desires full or part time position. F11.

Children's librarian desires position in East. Three years' experience in large city library. Library school graduate. E23.

Young woman, A.B. degree and four years' experience in a university library. Library courses. Desires position. E24.

Copies Available

CANADIAN libraries may be interested in a paper on "The Development of Children's Literature in Canada," recently prepared by a children's librarian. In response to demand, it has now been put into mimeographed form and is available for the cost of mimeographing on application to Miss Lucy Kinloch, c/o George L. Pease Memorial Library, Ridgewood, N. J.

A LIMITED NUMBER of *Some Notes On American Pewterers*, an authoritative book on pewter by Louis Guérineau Myers, are available to librarians at THE LIBRARY JOURNAL office, 62 West 45th Street, New York City, for fifteen cents transportation cost.

Information Wanted

I HAVE recently been confronted with a library research problem of finding information on the subject of "The Commercial Cleaning of Window Shades." My efforts have seemed to indicate that there is little reliable data on this apparently simple subject. Window shade fabrics have only two major classifications. They are either known as water color or oil finished shading. The first of these is of little interest to me and as a result need not be given consideration in my request. Can you furnish any information on this subject?

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The Calendar Of Events

June 27-July 2—New England States and New Jersey, joint meeting at the Maplewood Club, Bethlehem, N. H.

June 30-July 2—Pacific Northwest Library Association, annual meeting at Paradise Inn, Mt. Rainier National Park, Washington.

Sept. 19-24—New York Library Association, annual meeting at Lake Placid Club, New York.

October 5-7—Wisconsin Library Association, annual meeting at Appleton, Wisconsin.

October 5-7—Ohio Library Association, annual meeting at Columbus, Ohio.

October 11-13—Indiana Library Association, annual meeting at Evansville, Indiana.

October 13-15—Kentucky Library Association, annual meeting at Lexington, Kentucky.

October 14—New Jersey Library Association, fall meeting in Morristown, N. J.

October 12-15—Five State Regional Conference—Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, and Nebraska Library Associations—at Des Moines, Iowa.

October 13-15—Pennsylvania Library Association, annual meeting at the Nittany Lion, State College, Pennsylvania.

October 26-28—Illinois Library Association, annual meeting at Springfield, Illinois. (Dates changed from Oct. 12-14.)

October 26-29—Southwestern Library Association, biennial meeting at Little Rock, Arkansas.

For Sale

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC Magazine, 16 vols., 1913-1923, library buckram binding.—F. J. Pierce, Winthrop, Iowa.

A LIBRARY that has reorganized its equipment offers for sale three Library Bureau's sixty tray card cases; oak; two as good as new; one shop-worn and with brass tarnished; also three sections of a "Globe" case, fifteen trays each with metal sides. Bases with each case. Prices reasonable. All standard cases. Address Box E22, THE LIBRARY JOURNAL.

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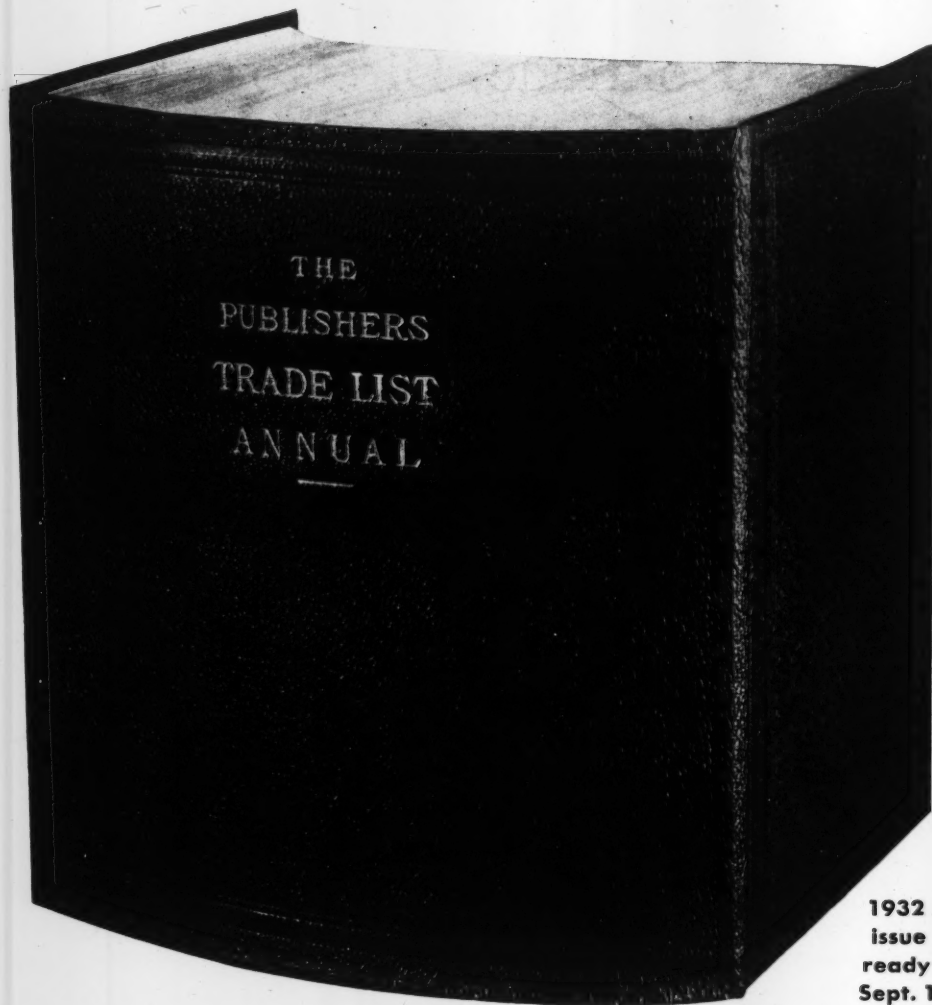
American Booktrade Directory 1932

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